



No Shutdown

House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy of Calif., center, walks to a procedural vote and debate in the House on a stopgap spending bill to avert a government shutdown, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015, on Capitol Hill in Washington. Just hours before a midnight deadline, a bitterly divided Congress approved a stopgap spending bill Wednesday to keep the U.S. government open — but with no assurance there won't be yet another shutdown showdown in December.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

Congress Approves Bill to Keep Government Open

ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Just hours before a midnight deadline, a bitterly divided Congress approved a stopgap spending bill Wednesday to keep the U.S. government open — but with no assurance there won't be yet another shutdown showdown in December. Democrats helped beleaguered House Republican leaders pass the measure by 277-151 — a lopsided vote shrouding deep disagreements within the Republican party — after the Senate approved it by a 78-20 tally earlier in the day.

The votes sent the bill to President Barack Obama for his signature.

"The American people deserve far better than last-minute, short-term legislating," said White House spokesman Josh Earnest in pressing for a broader, longer-lasting budget deal. Approval of such stopgap measures used to be routine, but debate this year exposed acrimonious divisions between pragmatic Republicans such as House Speaker John Boehner and more junior lawmakers in the party's conservative tea party wing who are less inclined to compro-

mise. The tea partiers had demanded that the must-pass measure be used to punish women's health care provider Planned Parenthood, stripping it of federal money because of its practice of supplying tissue from aborted fetuses for scientific research.

House Republicans opposed the measure by a clear margin, but Democratic support was unanimous.

The legislation finances the government through Dec. 11, providing 10 weeks to negotiate a more wide-ranging budget deal that would carry past the 2016

presidential election. But the talks promise to be difficult, and success is not assured.

Boehner is resigning from Congress at the end of October, a decision he announced last week after informing Republicans he would not risk a government shutdown over Planned Parenthood.

A similar fight over implementing Obama's health care law sparked a 16-day shutdown two years ago that Boehner, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and other top Republicans did not want to repeat in election sea-

son. McConnell is seeking to protect embattled incumbents in Democratic-leaning states such as Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, while some Republican conservatives are more apt to use the battle to appeal to the party's core voters on the right.

"Today was a win for the Washington cartel, and another setback for the American people," said Rep. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, who is using combat with Washington GOP leaders to help define his presidential campaign.

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US warns Russia against striking non-IS groups in Syria

MATTHEW LEE
LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Ash Carter said Wednesday that the Russian airstrikes in Syria appear to have targeted areas that do not include Islamic State fighters, a development which Secretary of State John Kerry said would cause "grave concern" for the United States.

Kerry told the United Nations Security Council that the U.S. would not object to Russians hitting Islamic State or al-Qaida targets, but airstrikes just to strengthen the hand of Syrian President Bashar Assad would be worrisome. Later, after meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov, Kerry said he had spoken about U.S. "concerns about the nature of the targets, the type of targets and the need for clarity with respect for them."

"It is one thing obviously to be targeting ISIL. We are concerned obviously if that is not what is happening," Kerry said.

"It does appear they were in areas where there probably were not ISIL forces," Carter said of the Russian airstrikes, using an



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, left, meets with Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov at U.N. headquarters, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015.

(AP Photo/Jason DeCrow)

alternative acronym for Islamic State. "The result of this kind of action will inevitably simply be to inflame the civil war in Syria."

Carter said he couldn't confirm reports that the Russian strikes may have hit civilians, but said, "if it occurred, it's yet another reason why this kind of Russian action can and will backfire very badly on Russia."

Carter's comments triggered a dismissive response from Lavrov, who told re-

porters flatly, "Don't listen to the Pentagon about the Russian strikes" and referred them to the Russian defense ministry website.

The top national security officials spoke as Russia launched its first airstrikes in Syria targeting what it said were Islamic State positions. On Wednesday, some U.S.-backed rebel groups claimed they were hit by Russian airstrikes but those claims could not be confirmed.

A key unanswered question, however, is what the U.S. will do if the Russian airstrikes target moderate Syrian rebel groups working with the coalition in the fight against the Islamic State. Asked directly if the coalition would protect the U.S.-trained or aligned groups, Carter did not answer.

Instead, Carter said the strikes highlight a contradiction in Russia's approach. He said the Russians should

not be supporting the Assad government, and their military moves are "doomed to fail."

Carter also expressed disappointment that the Russians did not use formal channels to provide the U.S. with advance notice of its airstrikes, but instead sent an official to the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad for what he characterized as an unprofessional "drop-in."

Kerry said discussions to avoid any accidental conflicts could begin as early as Thursday.

"By supporting Assad and seemingly taking on everyone who is fighting Assad, you're taking on the whole rest of the country of Syria," Carter said. "That is not our position. At least some parts of the anti-Assad opposition belong in the political transition going forward. That's why the Russian approach is doomed to fail."

He added that more formal talks with the Russians should get under way "within days." A U.S. official said the meeting would involve a U.S. military officer and a senior Defense Department civilian, and could be either by secure video teleconference or in person. The details are still being worked out.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said the new action "calls into question their strategy, because when President Putin and President Obama had the opportunity to meet at the U.N. earlier this week much of their discussion was focused on the need for a political transition inside Syria."

Kerry said Russian operations must not support Assad or interfere with those of the U.S.-led coalition that is already attacking Islamic State targets.

"If Russia's actions and those now ongoing reflect a genuine commitment to defeat (Islamic State) then we are prepared to welcome those efforts and to find a way to de-conflict our operations and thereby multiply military pressure on ISIL and affiliated groups," Kerry said. □

Syria's Assad welcomes Russian military moves

ALBERT AJI
BASSEM MROUE

Associated Press

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Syrian President Bashar Assad welcomed Wednesday's decision by Russia to send troops to his war-torn country, saying the military support from Moscow is the result of a Damascus request.

The development came as Russian military jets carried out airstrikes in Syria on Wednesday for the first time.

A U.S. defense official told The Associated Press that the airstrikes took place near Homs — Syria's largest provinces that borders Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq. Russian lawmakers earlier Wednesday voted unanimously to let President Vladimir Putin send Russian

troops to Syria. The Kremlin, however, sought to play down the decision, saying it will only use its air force in the Mideast country, not ground troops.

According to a statement by Assad's office, the Syrian leader had sent a letter to his Russian counterpart, asking for the support. Assad's Facebook page also reiterated that it "came upon a request from the Syrian state."

Russia has been one of Assad's strongest allies since the Syrian crisis began in March 2011. The civil war has killed more than 250,000 people and wounded a million, according to U.N. figures.

On the ground, Syrian activists said that air raids on the central provinces of Homs and Hama killed and

wounded dozens of people on Wednesday.

An activist group known as the Local Coordination Committees claimed that the warplanes that carried out the air raids were Russian.

It cited residents in the areas bombed as saying the explosions were much more powerful and accurate than those carried out by government warplanes. However, Rami Abdurrahman, who heads another activist group, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said the air raids were carried out by government warplanes which Damascus had recently received from Moscow. He said the new warplanes were Russian-made Sukhoi and MiGs.

Abdurrahman added that

he expects Russia will target militants from the former Soviet Union — whether they belong to the Islamic State group or al-Qaida's affiliate in Syria, the Nusra Front.

The areas that were hit in the airstrikes in central Syria are not under the control of the Islamic State group.

The LCC said dozens of people were killed and wounded in the air raids on Homs while the Observatory said 27, including six children, were died.

The Observatory said towns of Rastan, Talbiseh and Zaafaraneh were hit.

After the air raids, rebels shelled government-held neighborhoods in the city of Homs, killing at least one person and wounding seven, according to governor Talal Barrazi. □

Congress approves bill to keep government open

Continued from Front

"Republican leadership chose to abandon its constitutional power of the purse and to fund 100 percent of President Obama's failed agenda."

Support from Democrats also helped power the measure through the Senate, all of the opposition coming from conservative Republicans.

Longtime lawmakers bemoaned the chronic dysfunction on Capitol Hill and the collapse of the annual appropriations process that is supposed to be wrapped up by now.

Democrats demanding a new budget deal have blocked work in the Senate, while a fight over the Confederate flag halted work in the House with only six of the 12 annual spending bills having passed.

"It is to my great dismay that we are at this point again, requiring a temporary Band-Aid to buy us time to do our duty," said Rep. Hal

Rogers, R-Kentucky, chairman of the Appropriations Committee, during House debate.

Tea party anger directed at Boehner over the Planned Parenthood issue helped prod the Ohio Republican's announcement to step down. His decision — and other House leadership races — have highlighted divisions between more pragmatic Republicans and hardline conservative wing that is increasingly prominent in Congress, especially in the rough-and-tumble House. McConnell said Tuesday that he and Boehner spoke with Obama recently and that he expects budget negotiations to get underway soon.

The turmoil in the House, where many conservatives want to block spending increases, is certain to complicate the talks, which are likely to focus on swapping near-term budget increases for the Pentagon and domestic programs for longer-term saving elsewhere



Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., left, is interviewed as he leaves after a Senate vote on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015. Just hours before a midnight deadline, a bitterly divided Congress approved a stopgap spending bill Wednesday to keep the U.S. government open — but with no assurance there won't be yet another shutdown showdown in December. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

in the budget. The Pentagon and domestic agencies all are still operating under automatic

curbs that would effectively freeze their spending at current levels.

Republicans are leading

the drive to boost defense while Obama is demanding equal relief for domestic programs. □

Hurricane Joaquin gains force by Bahamas, heads toward US

BEN FOX
Associated Press
MIAMI (AP)

— Hurricane Joaquin intensified Wednesday as it approached the small, sparsely populated islands of the eastern Bahamas on a projected track that would take it near the U.S. East Coast early next week. Maximum sustained winds reached 85 mph (135 kph) and extended 35 miles (55 kilometers) from the center of the storm over the Atlantic Ocean, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami, which predicted Joaquin would develop into a major hurricane in the coming days. Authorities in the Bahamas prepared for a brush with the storm, with the center expected to pass near several eastern islands. Forecasters were still gathering data to determine how it would affect the U.S.

"We've got Air Force re-

connaissance planes continuously giving us data from inside the hurricane this morning, and we're going to be throwing a lot more aircraft resources at this problem over the next few days because it still is not certain whether or not Joaquin will directly impact the U.S. East Coast or stay out to sea," said Rick Knabb, director of the National Hurricane Center.

The hurricane was expected to pass near the islands of San Salvador, Cat Island, Eleuthera and Rum Cay on Thursday, close enough that it could bring tropical-storm-force winds, storm surges, coastal flooding and 5-10 inches (13-25 centimeters) of rain, said Geoffrey Greene, a senior forecaster with the Bahamas Meteorology Department. "We would be very concerned about them," Greene said of the eastern islands. □



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Democrats say Republican's comments on Clinton are shameful

MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats criticized the U.S. lawmaker who is likely to become leader or speaker of the House of Representatives after he suggested that the House's Republican-led Benghazi investigation committee can take credit for Hillary

Rodham Clinton's diminished public standing. Democrats said the comments by the Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy in a Fox News Channel interview contradict claims by the committee's leader and other Republicans that the panel is merely seeking the truth about the deadly 2012 attacks at

a U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya. Clinton, a former secretary of state and the Democratic frontrunner for president in 2016, has been dogged by questions about her use of a private email account and server for government business. The Benghazi committee played a key role in discov-

ering the private emails. McCarthy, No. 2 to the current speaker John Boehner who announced his resignation last week, told conservative television host Sean Hannity that, "Everybody thought Hillary Clinton was unbeatable (as a Democratic candidate for president), right? But we put together a Benghazi

special committee, a select committee. What are her numbers today? Her numbers are dropping." Clinton's poll numbers have dropped "because she's untrustable," McCarthy said. "But no one would have known any of that had happened had we not fought and made that happen." □

US Republicans push tax cuts bound to drive up debt

NICHOLAS RICCARDI
Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — In the last U.S. presidential campaign, Democrats blasted Mitt Romney's tax plan as a giveaway to the rich — so this year's Republican candidates are being urged to focus on tax cuts to working-class Americans rather than the wealthy. Yet the release of Donald Trump's tax plan adds to the number of major Republican presidential candidates who propose to cut all taxes — but especially those for the wealthy — as deeply, or deeper, than Romney proposed. The lesson Republicans seem to have drawn is to simply stop worrying about balancing the budget. The plans would blow open deficits over the next decade that economists estimate ranging from \$3.6 trillion to \$12 trillion. Oren Cass, who was Romney's domestic policy adviser, noted the former Massachusetts governor had pledged to make his tax cuts deficit-neutral



Republican presidential candidate former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush speaks during a campaign stop Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015, in Bedford, N.H. This year's Republican candidates are being urged to focus on tax cuts to working-class Americans rather than the wealthy. (AP Photo/Jim Cole)

by cutting tax loopholes, though he never fully detailed how his plan would do so. Yet he was still savaged by Democrats who accused him of planning to stiff middle-class ratepayers for the benefit of the rich. "You look at what Gov. Romney did and you say, 'There's nothing to be gained from being respon-

sible that way,' " Cass said. "You may as well do the plan that your base is going to love." Trump initially hinted he might buck conservative economic orthodoxy and raise taxes on the wealthy. But he ended up releasing the most aggressive tax cut of all candidates to date. The Tax Foundation, which favors lower taxes, esti-

mated that his plan would increase the deficit by \$12 trillion. The foundation found more than one-fifth of the plan's benefit would accrue to the top 1 percent of income earners. Trump's plan pointed to the enduring power of traditional conservative thinking — that lower taxes are the best way to spark growth, and any skew to-

ward the wealthy is mainly a reflection of the outsized amount of taxes the rich already pay. Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's plan is less flamboyant but reduces rates and raises standard deductions enough to remove those families making \$40,000 and under from the rolls. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, meanwhile, would increase the child tax credit and lower the rate for families making less than \$150,000 to 15 percent. Still, Rubio would eliminate taxes on investment gains, which is how most of the affluent make most of their money, and Bush would lower top rates dramatically as well. Both of their plans are skewed to the wealthy, like Trump's, but less so. Criticism of tax proposals that benefit the wealthy grates on conservative economists. They note that the top 1 percent already pays more than a third of federal income taxes, so any large reduction would inevitably benefit them anyhow. □

Emails: Russia-linked hackers tried to access Clinton server

BRADLEY KLAPPER
JACK GILLUM
STEPHEN BRAUN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russia-linked hackers tried at least five times to pry into Hillary Rodham Clinton's private email account while she was secretary of state, emails released Wednesday show. It is unclear if she clicked on any attachment and exposed her account. Clinton received the in-

fected emails, disguised as speeding tickets, over four hours early on the morning of Aug. 3, 2011. The emails instructed recipients to print the attached tickets, which would have allowed hackers to take control of their computers. Security researchers who analyzed the malicious software in September 2011 said that infected computers would transmit information from victims to at least three server com-

puters overseas, including one in Russia. That doesn't necessarily mean Russian intelligence or citizens were responsible. Clinton has said repeatedly that the unusual homebrew server she used was secure. But the phishing attempts highlight the risk of Clinton's unsecure email being pried open by foreign intelligence agencies, even if others also received the virus concealed as

a speeding ticket from Chatham, New York. The email misspelled the name of the city, came from a supposed New York City government account and contained a "Ticket.zip" file that would have been a red flag. Most commercial antivirus software at the time would have detected the software, identified it as dangerous and prevented users from infecting themselves. It was unclear if the

State Department's network security would have flagged the infected message, or what precautions were in place protecting Clinton's server in the basement of her home in Chappaqua. The State Department and other government agencies, during Clinton's tenure and after, suffered its own series of hacking attacks. U.S. counterterrorism officials have linked them to China and Russia. □

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Mom accused of tossing newborn held for murder

COLLEEN LONG
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A woman believed to have given birth in the bathroom of her boyfriend's apartment before tossing her newborn daughter to her death from a seventh-story window was being held without bail Wednesday on a murder charge, police and prosecutors said.

Jennifer Berry, 33, appeared in a Bronx courtroom late Tuesday and was also charged with manslaughter in the death of the girl. Officials said she concealed the final stage of her pregnancy from friends and family, telling some she miscarried much earlier on. The boyfriend, who was home when the baby plunged from the window, told police he did not know she was pregnant. The attorney who represented Berry at her arraignment did not return a call seeking comment.

Berry initially denied to police that she was pregnant before saying she had given birth in the shower, authorities said. She said the newborn wasn't breathing when she threw the baby — and the placenta — from the window, police said.

But prosecutors say she knew the baby was alive when she threw her, umbilical cord still attached, into the alley below. The medical examiner said the baby died from blunt force trauma in the fall, meaning she was born alive.

Assistant District Attorney Georgia Barker said the baby weighed 8 pounds (4 kilograms) — the weight of a full-term newborn.

"There was air in the lungs. This was a healthy baby girl," Barker said in court, according to the Daily News of New York. □

Police:

Officer killed in mall shooting; suspect charged

S. M. SCHAFER
Associated Press

FOREST ACRES, South Carolina (AP) — A police officer responding to a report of a suspicious person was fatally shot at a suburban South Carolina mall on Wednesday, and police say the suspect is charged with murder.

Police first got a call on the shooting about 8 a.m., Forest Acres police Chief Gene Sealy told reporters. Two officers responded and attempted to talk to Jarvis Hall, who fled on foot and ran through parts of Richland Mall, including the Barnes and Noble bookstore, officials said.

Officer Greg Alia confronted Hall, there was a struggle, and he was shot, Sealy said.

Alia was taken to a hospital and later died, officials said. No other injuries were reported.

The State Law Enforcement Division charged Hall with murder and possession of a weapon during commission of a violent crime Wednesday afternoon. He killed Alia with a .40-caliber handgun that had been



Columbia Police Officers investigate the scene where a Forest Acres Police Officer was fatally shot in the Richland Mall Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015, in Forest Acres, S.C. Police say a suspect is in custody.

stolen from neighboring Lexington County in early September, according to arrest warrants.

Hall also had a knife, Sealy said. The chief did not take questions at the news conference.

Sealy said Alia was 32 years old and had been with the department for seven years. He and his

wife, Kassy, recently had a baby, Sealy said.

Joan Woodward, 81, lived next door to the officer's parents and said she had known him since he was a baby. She said Wednesday afternoon that she'd just visited with his wife and baby.

"She said she was so fortunate that she had him

for that length of time," Woodward said.

She remembered sneaking candy to the officer when he came to her door as a child, and she called him "a special human being."

"When my husband died eight years ago, he was so sweet," she said. "He came and sat with me. God always takes the angels." □

Oklahoma delays execution over drug protocols

SEAN MURPHY
Associated Press

McALESTER, Oklahoma (AP) — Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin postponed an inmate's scheduled execution Wednesday, saying a drug that the state Department of Corrections had received to carry out a lethal injection didn't match those listed in the agency's protocols.

Fallin said prison officials received potassium acetate for use in Richard Glossip's execution, but Oklahoma's guidelines call for

the use of potassium chloride. She reset Glossip's execution for Nov. 6, saying it would give the state enough time to determine whether potassium acetate is a suitable substitute, or to find a supply of potassium chloride.

It's not clear why the error wasn't caught before Wednesday, or announced until an hour after Glossip's scheduled execution.

Part of Wednesday's delay, though, occurred as the Corrections Depart-

ment waited for the U.S. Supreme Court to weigh in on Glossip's claim of innocence. Justices ultimately rejected his appeal.

Glossip was convicted of ordering the 1997 killing of Barry Van Treese, who owned the Oklahoma City motel that Glossip managed.

Glossip has long claimed he was framed by hotel handyman Justin Sneed, who admitted to fatally beating Van Treese with a baseball bat, but said he did so only after Glos-

sip promised him \$10,000. Sneed — who is serving a life sentence — was the state's key witness against Glossip in two separate trials.

Glossip was originally scheduled for execution on Sept. 16. But just hours earlier, the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals granted a rare two-week reprieve to review his claims of new evidence, including another inmate's assertion that he overheard Sneed admit to framing Glossip. □

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Volkswagen:

'Nothing has changed' at Tennessee plant despite scandal



Employees work at the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, Tenn. While the full effect on demand for Volkswagen's non-diesel vehicles remains to be seen, some Tennessee officials fear for job prospects at the plant that currently employs 2,400, where the average hourly wage is about \$21 and perks include reduced-cost leases on VW vehicles with free insurance coverage.

(AP Photo/Erik Schelzig)

Associated Press
CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — Inside Volkswagen's only U.S. assembly plant there's little hint of the diesel emissions cheating scandal embroiling the German automaker around the world. Sparks fly off robotic welding arms, new versions of the Passat sedan roll off the line and workers install equipment to build a new SUV billed as a key to reviving the company's growth prospects in America. "Nothing has changed, and the factory construction goes on," plant spokesman Scott Wilson told The Associated Press on a tour of the sprawling facility where Volkswagen plans to add 2,000 jobs as it expands the facility by 30 percent. But despite the business-as-

usual feel of the plant, production of diesel-engine vehicles has been put on hold by VW until they get more clarity on the consequences of the emissions scandal, which has already led to the CEO's resignation, cost the company billions of dollars in lost stock value and unleashed a flood of lawsuits. The car-maker has admitted that 11 million of its diesel vehicles worldwide were fitted with a program that duped U.S. testers into believing the vehicles meet environmental standards. And while the full effect on demand for Volkswagen's remaining vehicles remains to be seen, some Tennessee officials fear for job prospects at the plant that currently employs 2,400, where the average hourly wage is about \$21 and perks include reduced-cost leases on VW vehicles with free insurance coverage. Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam said the scandal presents a "big hit" to Volkswagen's status in the United States. "My primary concern is getting Volkswagen back to where they're in a mode to sell cars," Haslam said. "Because, if they're not selling cars, those 2,000-plus people working in Chattanooga's life is going to look different." Workers at the plant have largely remained mum on the scandal. Mike Cantrell, a quality control worker at the plant, said an initial wave of apprehension among his colleagues has eased as operations at the Chattanooga factory have moved forward.

Officials:

Key fishing area for Atlantic cod in dire shape

PATRICK WHITTLE
Associated Press
PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — One of the two critical areas where New England fishermen search for cod may be in even worse shape than suspected. Fishing managers already knew cod stocks in Georges Bank were thin, but new data from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center says research boats caught less of the fish this past spring than in all but one spring season dating back to 1968. A report from the center states that the boats caught about 3.3 pounds

of cod each time the net went in and out of the water last spring, compared to more than three times that amount two years earlier. Those numbers were routinely more than 20 pounds per trip in the late 1980s. The status of cod in Georges Bank, a broad swath of elevated sea floor off of Massachusetts, could motivate regulators to again lower catch quotas for the area. Quotas have plummeted from more than 4,800 metric tons in 2012 to less than 2,000 metric tons this year. It's more bad news for the faltering fishery, which gen-

erations of New England fishermen have relied upon to make a living. Regulators and marine scientists have said overfishing hit the stock hard and warming oceans could be making it worse. "Is that coming as a surprise from anybody who knows what the water temperature is out there? No, it shouldn't be," said David Goethel, a New Hampshire-based fisherman. "These fish are declining because of climate change." Regulators say the Gulf of Maine, home of the other key cod fishing ground off of New England, is also in

dire shape — the National Marine Fisheries Service scientists said last year the amount of cod spawning in the Gulf was estimated to be 3 to 4 percent of its target level. The Northeast Fisheries Science Center gave the report to The Associated Press on Tuesday. The status of the Georges Bank cod was the subject of a presentation to federal fishing managers on Wednesday in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The New England Fishery Management Council will likely set a fishing quota for Georges Bank cod in December.



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Whole Foods to stop selling products made by inmates



A shopper leaves a Whole Foods Market store in Union Square, in New York. Whole Foods this week confirmed that it will stop selling products made by a prison labor program after a protest against the practice at one of its stores in Texas.
(AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)

CANDICE CHOI
AP Food Industry Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Whole Foods will stop selling products made using a prison labor program after a protest at one of its stores in Texas.

The company said the products should be out of its stores by April 2016, if not sooner. Whole Foods said it has sold tilapia, trout and goat cheese produced through a Colorado inmate program at some stores since at least 2011.

Michael Silverman, a Whole Foods spokesman, said the company had sourced the products because the program was a way to "help people get back on their feet and eventually become contributing members of society."

But he said the company decided to end the practice because some customers were uncomfortable with it.

The tilapia, trout and cheese in question come through Colorado Correctional Industries, a division of Colorado's department of corrections. On its website, CCI says its mission is to

train inmates with skills and work ethics that help them secure employment after release.

Dennis Dunsmoor, director of the program, said the program doesn't provide goods directly to Whole Foods, but that its partners do. He said inmates who volunteer for the program are paid 74 cents to \$4 a day, and are eligible for performance bonuses.

Inmate work is typically used for government needs, such as the production of license plates or office furniture for state agencies, said Marc Maurer, executive director of The Sentencing Project, a criminal justice research and advocacy group. But he said several states have programs where prisons contract with private companies.

Maurer said the programs can benefit inmates by giving them productive work and training in useful skills, but that there's potential for exploitation, since companies typically pay far less for prison labor than they otherwise would.

"Are companies doing

it out of the goodness of their hearts, or because it's cheap labor?" Maurer said.

Michael Allen, a prison reform advocate, said Whole Foods informed him of its change in policy after he organized a protest at one of the company's stores in Houston this weekend. Whole Foods Market Inc. is based in Austin, Texas. Although other com-

panies sell products made by inmates, Allen said he thought it was hypocritical of Whole Foods to do so.

"They say they care about the community, but they're enhancing their profit off of poor people," Allen said, noting the pay that inmates receive for such work.

Haystack Mountain Goat Dairy, which uses milk

from herds managed by inmates, sells to various markets, restaurants and cheese shops, said John Scaggs, the company's director of sales and marketing.

Scaggs said that the nation's prison system needs improvement, but that CCI is a "model program" other states should look to in helping inmates. □



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Abbas: Palestinians no longer bound by pacts with Israel

**ZEINA KARAM
KARIN LAUB
Associated Press**

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas told world leaders Wednesday that he is no longer bound by agreements that have defined relations with Israel for the past two decades and are meant to form the basis for a two-state solution to the Middle East conflict. But what sounded like a potentially explosive declaration was blunted by the lack of any detail on how he plans to move forward.

Addressing the United Nations General Assembly, Abbas said Israel had repeatedly violated its commitments, most notably by expanding settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, on lands the Palestinians seek for a future state.

Abbas' speech reflected growing Palestinian frustration and appeared aimed at focusing the attention of the international community — busy with the Syrian civil war and the migrants' crisis in Europe — on the long-festering Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

However, the Palestinian leader stopped short of specific threats that would irrevocably put him on a collision course with Israel, such as suspending security cooperation. Instead, he closed on a conciliatory note, saying that

eventual peace between Israelis and Palestinians is "in the interest of our future generations."

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office issued a statement in re-

proof that he has no intention of reaching a peace agreement," he said.

No serious talks have been held since Netanyahu came to power in 2009. Abbas says he will not re-

settlements, and called on the U.N. to provide international protection for the Palestinians.

The Palestinians "will not remain the only ones committed to the implementa-



A woman carries a painting of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas as others fly their national flags following his speech at the U.N. General Assembly shown on TV in the West Bank city of Ramallah, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas declared before world leaders Wednesday that he is no longer bound by agreements signed with Israel, and called on the United Nations to provide international protection for the Palestinian people.

(AP Photo/Nasser Nasser)

sponse, saying that Abbas had delivered a "speech of lies that encourages incitement and unrest in the Middle East."

Netanyahu called on Abbas to "act responsibly" and answer his proposal for direct negotiations with Israel without any preconditions. "The fact that time after time he (Abbas) does not respond is the best

turn to negotiations without a settlement freeze and an Israeli recognition of the pre-1967 frontier as the basis for border talks. Unlike some of his predecessors, Netanyahu has refused to accept the 1967 line as a starting point.

Abbas said Wednesday that Israel has repeatedly violated its commitments, including by expanding

tion of these agreements, while Israel continuously violates them," Abbas said. "We therefore declare that we cannot continue to be bound by these agreements and that Israel must assume all of its responsibilities as an occupying power."

Israel's actions "render us an authority without real powers," he said. □

Dutch end bid for a UN fact-finding mission in Yemen

**JAMEY KEATEN
Associated Press**

GENEVA (AP) — Dutch diplomats on Wednesday dropped their attempt at the top U.N. human rights body to launch a fact-finding mission in war-torn Yemen, clearing the way for a rival initiative led by Saudi Arabia — a major protagonist in the conflict.

Two days before the end of the Human Rights Council session in Geneva, the Netherlands withdrew its proposal that had sought the deployment of a mission under the U.N. human rights chief to report on possible conflict-related crimes in Yemen. The U.N. estimates that at least 2,355 civilians have died since fighting escalated in March.

The less-ambitious Saudi alternative wants the human rights chief to provide "technical assistance" to Yemen's government and give an oral report to the council on the human rights situation. It also reiterates calls for Shiite militias, known as Houthis, and forces loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh "to engage in the political process." A Saudi-led, U.S.-backed military coalition with blistering air power is fighting those groups.

Human rights groups expressed disappointment with the withdrawal of the proposal.

"The question is really what happened — and why is Saudi Arabia simply off the hook for massive bombing affecting civilian life and (that) probably may constitute war crimes?" said Philippe Dam, deputy director for Human Rights Watch in Geneva.

The United States had expressed support for the Dutch position, but also favored efforts at compromise on the issue. A Dutch diplomat declined comment, and the U.S. and Saudi ambassadors did not immediately respond to text messages and emails seeking comment.

Dam said there was a lack of transparency about coalition operations in Yemen. □

Iraqi Kurds drive Islamic State out of villages

**BRAM JANSSEN
Associated Press**

IRBIL, Iraq (AP) — Kurdish fighters in northern Iraq drove the Islamic State group from more than 140 sq. kilometers (54 sq. miles) of territory near the oil-rich city of Kirkuk and cleared part of a major highway Wednesday.

The Kurdish peshmerga fighters backed by U.S.-led airstrikes pushed the militants beyond Ghara Heights and Mount Batiwa, south of Kirkuk, and secured a stretch of a highway which connects Kirkuk

to the central city of Samarra, a statement from the Kurdistan Region Security Council said.

The villages of Meziriya, Gubebe, Seda, Mohammed Khalil, Qows Kurd, Tal Ward, Khalef and Mansouria — all south of Kirkuk — were purged of militants, the statement said.

At least 10 peshmerga fighters died in the operation and another 16 were wounded, according to a senior security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to brief jour-

nalists. The Kurdish government said some militants were seen fleeing toward the contested town of Hawijah.

The IS group swept across northern Iraq in the summer of 2014 and holds roughly a third of Iraq and neighboring Syria. Kurdish fighters made significant advances against the militant group early this year, but their progress has stalled around areas the extremists view as strategic — particularly near the border.

The militant group has launched numerous at-

tacks on Kirkuk in its bid to expand access to oil resources, but peshmerga fighters have managed to defend the city.

A statement from the U.S.-led coalition Wednesday noted three airstrikes near Kirkuk over the previous day, which it said had destroyed a tactical unit, 10 rocket rails, a weapons cache, five militant vehicles and a car bomb. Another eight airstrikes were conducted in the area around Hawijah over the same period, the statement said. □

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First wave of cold weather hits migrants hard in Balkans



A group of migrants head to cross a border line between Serbia and Croatia, near the village of Berkasovo, about 100 km west from Belgrade, Serbia, Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015. Refugees from countries such as Syria, Iraq and Eritrea are used to warm climate without sudden weather changes. The majority now passing through the Balkans started their months-long journeys in the summer, unaware it would take so long to reach Western Europe. (AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic)

JOVANA GEC
Associated Press

BERKASOVO, Serbia (AP)

— Afghan asylum-seeker Asina Ansari stood ankle-deep in mud on the border between Serbia and Croatia, clutching her feverish and shivering 2-year-old son Mohtar in a blanket. Their dream is to reach Sweden, where she has an uncle. But as the teacher from Kabul stood in a cornfield with hundreds of other asylum-seekers waiting for hot soup, that dream seemed far away.

"I just want to get somewhere dry and warm," she said feebly. "My boy is sick." The journey for Ansari and thousands of asylum-seekers hoping to find sanctuary in rich European Union nations took a turn for the worse this week. The onset of fall weather in the Balkans sent temperatures plummeting and brought relentless rain and biting winds.

The weather spread despair among people on long and perilous journeys from war and poverty in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. Aid workers help the

exhausted and the frightened, many with small children, like Ansari's boy.

The situation will get worse. Temperatures can drop below freezing as soon as November.

"The refugees are not used to this," said Davor Rako of the U.N. refugee agency. "They arrive here wearing shorts and no socks, shivering with cold."

Refugees from countries such as Syria, Iraq and Eritrea are used to warmth without sudden weather shifts. The majority passing through the Balkans started their months-long journeys in the summer, unaware it would take so long to reach Western Europe.

Many have traveled from Turkey to Greece, and then set off on foot, walking north to Macedonia and Serbia. Those with children, in particular, have needed extra time.

Several aid and medical groups were helping this week at Serbia's border with Croatia, offering hot soup and tea, food and water. Volunteers handed out rain ponchos and blankets.

More than 87,000 people

have entered Croatia from Serbia in the past two weeks, and the flow is not expected to wane, part of a human wave of more than 500,000 so far this year. There are volunteers and aid groups, but they can only do so much.

Just a few hours spent near the border where migrants were crossing offered a searing snapshot of misery. As they lined up for warm drinks and food, the

asylum-seekers blinked in the rain or kept their heads low. Some carried infants on one arm and plastic bags of belongings on the other.

Syed Ghadeer, a 16-year-old who traveled from Afghanistan, rolled up his trousers to the knees to avoid the mud, treading carefully on his tiptoes.

"There is not so much rain in Afghanistan," he said.

A pregnant woman shiv-

ered with fever, covering her round belly with her hands and pushing through the crowd to reach a tent with doctors offering help. Children were crying, the tears on their faces mixing with raindrops on their cheeks. Those that cried the hardest had accidentally dropped their stuffed animals in the mud. They had to leave them behind, now too dirty to be carried on. □

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Weapons believed to be from Iran seized in Arabian Sea

ADAM SCHRECK

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — A ship carrying illicit arms believed to be from Iran was intercepted last week off the southern Arabian Peninsula by a member of a U.S.-backed naval coalition and was not registered with any country, the U.S. Navy said Wednesday.

The description of the ship's

seizure conflicted in some instances with an earlier account provided by a separate Saudi-led coalition battling Yemen's Shiite rebels, which claimed in a statement carried by the state-run Saudi Press Agency that it had foiled the smuggling attempt. The Saudi coalition alleged that Iran was using the vessel to ship arms to the rebels, charges denied by

Tehran.

The U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, based in Bahrain, said a member of the Combined Maritime Forces, a long-standing multinational coalition, intercepted the vessel in international waters last Friday.

An American guided missile destroyer, the USS Forrest Sherman, arrived to assist once the weapons were found aboard

the dhow, a type of vessel commonly used in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean.

A search of the ship determined that it was "stateless," or not formally registered to any country, although it appears to have been coming from Iran, according to the U.S. Navy. "Based on statements from the dhow's crew, the port of origin of the dhow and

its illicit weapons cache is believed to be Iran," the Navy said, adding that the weapons included anti-tank arms thought to be of Iranian and Russian origin. The dhow's crew alleged that the vessel was bound for Somalia, which sits just across the Gulf of Aden from Yemen. They were allowed to depart once the weapons were confiscated, the U.S. said. □

US airstrikes back Afghan push to retake city from Taliban

LYNNE O'DONNELL

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghan troops backed by U.S. airstrikes massed Tuesday on the outskirts of a key northern city seized by the Taliban in the buildup for what is likely to be a long and difficult campaign to drive out the insurgents. Despite the overnight U.S. bombing of Taliban positions, the militants extended their grip on Kunduz, forcing government forces to retreat from a strategic fortress hilltop and giving the insurgents a vantage point overlooking the city. The airport remained the only pocket of resistance to the militant onslaught, which began with a coordinated attack Monday that took the government, military and intelligence agencies by surprise.

At least three U.S. airstrikes had targeted Taliban fighters near the city by early Wednesday. U.S. Army spokesman, Col. Brian Tribus, said that U.S. and NATO coalition advisers,



Afghan National Army soldiers arrive to start an operation soon, outside of Kunduz city, north of Kabul, Afghanistan, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015. The U.S. military says it has conducted two more airstrikes overnight on Taliban positions around a northern Afghan city seized by the insurgents this week. (Najim Rahim via AP)

including special forces, were also at the scene "in the Kunduz area, advising Afghan security forces." He denied reports that they were fighting on the ground, stressing the forces were there in a non-combat, train-and-assist role. "But these are dangerous

situations and if they need to defend themselves, they will," Tribus added. Residents reported increasing distress as insurgents put the city under virtual lockdown, blocking roads and setting up checkpoints to prevent people from leaving. The roadblocks also

kept essential supplies of food and medicine from reaching the city of some 300,000 people. Afghan military planners, backed by U.S. and NATO advisers, were bringing in units from across the nation's security forces — army, air force, police, spe-

cial forces and commandos. Coordination and planning was likely to take some time: The Afghan forces have been fighting alone only since the withdrawal last year of U.S. and NATO combat troops, and the learning curve has been steep and casualties high. The protracted crisis is a huge blow for President Ashraf Ghani, who took office a year ago pledging to restore peace to Afghanistan, and who had promised Kunduz would soon be back under government control. But the complicated nature of the fight and the need for a cross-pillar approach under a single command means it could be some time before progress is visible, military experts said.

"Neither heavy artillery nor airstrikes on the city itself are practical as the Taliban have embedded themselves within the civilian population," said retired Afghan army Gen. Atiqullah Amerkhail. □

Court gives death to 5 for 2006 Mumbai train bombings

NEW DELHI (AP) — An Indian court on Wednesday sentenced five suspected Islamic militants to death and gave seven others life in prison for bombing attacks nine years ago on seven Mumbai commuter trains that killed 188 people and wounded more than 800.

Judge Y.D. Shinde, who convicted them earlier this month for murder and a criminal conspiracy to

wage war against the government, imposed death sentences on five of the men who the prosecution said had planted the explosives on the trains. Seven bombs exploded during a 10-minute span during the evening rush hour in July 2006 in Mumbai, the financial and entertainment capital of India.

A defense attorney said he would appeal the Mumbai

court verdict.

The trial in India's notoriously slow justice system lasted more than seven years. One person was acquitted for lack of evidence. Prosecutors said the attack was hatched by Pakistan's Directorate of Inter-Services Intelligence and carried out by Lashkar-e-Taiba operatives with help from the Students' Islamic Movement of India, a banned militant organization. Paki-

stan has denied the charges.

Lashkar-e-Taiba is a Pakistan-based Islamic militant group.

The 12 convicted men were believed to belong to the Indian militant group.

K.P. Raghuvanshi, a police officer who investigated the case, said one Pakistani suspect was killed in the blasts and another was shot dead by Indian police. But there was no

independent confirmation of his claim.

India accuses Pakistan of arming and training Islamic insurgents, a charge Pakistan denies.

The neighboring countries have fought three wars, two of them over control of disputed Kashmir, since their independence from Britain in 1947 and have been engaged in a fitful peace process in recent years. □



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Colombia rebel leader affirms FARC commitment to end war

JOSHUA GOODMAN

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — In a landmark television interview, the rarely seen leader of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia reaffirmed the commitment of Latin America's oldest insurgency to abandon the battlefield even while shying from a six-month deadline to sign a final peace accord.

Rodrigo Londono said he has always considered himself an "enemy" of putting artificial dates on negotiations, fearing it could backfire against the rebels if a target is missed. But he said he eventually was persuaded to put aside those objections and join Santos in making a pledge to reach a final deal by March because he trusts the president, who he called an "ally of peace."

"If there's political will, we can do it earlier, but six months may also be too short," Londono said in his first interview since peace talks began in Cuba three years ago.

The interview aired Tuesday night was as significant for its very existence than any revelations made by the normally secretive Londono, who is better known by the alias Timochenko.

Until last week, when he shook hands with President Juan Manuel Santos in Havana to announce a breakthrough agreement on the thorny issue of punishment for war crimes during a half-century of fighting, the veteran guerrilla commander had been something of a sphinx to Colombians. When he was seen at all, it was only in videotaped messages from the jungle battlefield dressed in military fatigues and railing against Colombia's U.S.-backed "oligarchy." But in a speech alongside Santos and again in the interview aired Tuesday with Venezuelan-based network Telesur Londono tried to cast a softer image, wearing a white guayabera shirt and sporting his trademark salt-and-pepper beard neatly groomed. In a heavily edited conversation with a leftist former Colombian senator, Piedad Cordoba, Londono reminisced romantically about his decision to run off with the rebels while still a teenager 40 years ago. And he spoke of a desire to one day return to the coffee-growing town where he was raised by a peasant communist father and devout Catholic mother.

Asked if he would ask the FARC's many victims for forgiveness, Londono said tactical "errors" in the heat of battle were made on all sides, but he had nothing to apologize for.

"Whoever asks for forgiveness it's because they regret something, and I don't regret anything," he said. Without presenting any proof or details, he said the FARC early in the peace process had the opportunity to assassinate Santos but desisted from carrying out an attack because the group's then-leader, alias Alfonso Cano, was against provoking more bloodshed while dialogue was underway. Cano was later killed in a military air attack. □



United Kingdom's Prime Minister David Cameron speaks at the United Nations. Cameron on Wednesday rejected the Caribbean's push for slavery reparations during his first official visit to Jamaica. (AP Photo/Kevin Hagen)

UK PM Cameron provides Caribbean aid, rejects slavery reparations

HOWARD CAMPBELL

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron on Wednesday rejected the Caribbean's push for slavery reparations during his first official visit to Jamaica, a once-profitable British colony that became independent just over 50 years ago.

In Jamaica's capital of Kingston, Cameron promised a roughly \$455 million aid package to upgrade bridges, ports and other infrastructure across the Caribbean and reinvigorate Britain's relationship with the region dotted with U.K. dependencies and former colonies. He said it would make the U.K. the largest bilateral donor to the region. The British leader said he wanted to focus on the future, not historical wrongs, and the United Kingdom's longstanding position was "that we do not believe reparations is the right approach."

In a speech before Jamaica's Parliament on Wednesday morning, Cameron said he believed the Caribbean has emerged from the "long shadow" of slavery. However, he acknowledged that "these wounds run very deep indeed" from the brutal system that brought riches to Britain and other colonial powers.

"But I do hope that, as friends who have gone through so much together since those darkest of times, we can move on from this painful legacy and continue to build for the future," he said, and noted that Britain eventually led the effort that abolished the slave trade in the mid-19th century.

Jamaica and other Caribbean governments are pushing for reparations from Britain and two other European nations. Caricom, a political grouping of 15 countries and dependencies, announced in 2013 that it intended to seek reparations for slavery

and the genocide of native peoples.

In an open letter to Cameron, Hilary Beckles, chairman of the Caribbean Community's Reparations Commission and a scholar who has written several books on the history of regional slavery, said reparations was "not an issue that can be further ignored, remain under the rug, or placed on back burners."

Backers of reparations note that Britain was responsible for the forced relocation of millions of Africans via the Atlantic slave trade and they say grants and trade agreements "are not replacements for reparation." They also point out that Cameron's ancestors benefited financially from slavery.

Jamaican Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller said she raised the reparations issue with her British counterpart, but Jamaica was also focused on the aid package and boosting bilateral ties. □

As sharing economy grows; 2 Uber executives face prison in France

LORI HINNANT
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Angry French taxi drivers have torched tires and snarled highways in recent months while top government officials denounced Uber's business practices. Police raided the company's offices in March, seizing computer files, and then took two executives into custody in June.

Now, Thiebaud Simphal and Pierre-Dimitry Gore-Coty, the executives, face

hailing services eagerly adopted by consumers against the fears of drivers. France's top constitutional authority last week upheld a law written with Uber in mind. Authored by center-left lawmaker Thomas Thevenoud, the legislation takes aim at geolocalisation for car services, as well as any casual drivers who want to charge to give someone a ride — the essence of the UberPop service, which allowed nearly anyone with a driver's li-

entrepreneurs inspired by its example.

Blablacar, a French start-up that connects travelers who want to share a car for long-distance trips, said it had raised \$200 million in new funds from American and other investors. It hasn't had the same regulatory issues — drivers aren't supposed to make a profit on the ride, but merely split the cost of travel.

Heetch, another French newcomer to the field, falls somewhere in the middle.



Pierre-Dimitry Gore-Coty, general manager for western Europe of California-based Uber, left, and Thiebaud Simphal, manager of Uber France, right arrive at the court house in Paris, France, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015. Two Uber executives are facing the possibility of prison in a trial hinging on the ride-hailing service's outlawed low-cost service. (AP Photo/Michel Euler)

up to five years in prison and fines of 300,000 euros (\$335,000) per charge over allegations of fraudulent commercial activity, operating an illegal taxi service, and maintaining illegal databases containing personal information of both drivers and passengers.

The company is contesting the charges in a trial that began Wednesday, a week after France's highest constitutional authority upheld a law banning the low-cost UberPop service. Uber discontinued UberPop and operates other, more expensive services in France, which the company says it considers among its most important markets. And France, like many other countries, is grappling with how to balance ride-

cense to connect with potential customers.

"We have found, dare I say, a compromise between competition — because competition is necessary — and respect for the rules of the game," Thevenoud told The Associated Press in his offices, where the wall prominently displays a car-top taxi light. France is not Uber's toughest critic — it is banned entirely in Italy and Spain, and on precarious footing in Germany and the Netherlands. But the company countered with legal challenges it hopes will eventually bring vindication across the European Union. In the meantime, however, the market for transportation alternatives is being eagerly divided among other

The company uses casual drivers and operates only late night till dawn, when public transit shuts down and taxis are scarce in the city and non-existent in the suburbs. Its drivers are under pressure from the same police squad that targeted UberPop, co-founder Teddy Pellerin said.

Pellerin says Heetch doesn't belong in the same category as UberPop — drivers can make a maximum of 6,000 euros (\$6,720) euros a year — the average cost of keeping a car in France, and it works at times and in places where taxis can't — or won't — go.

"We're in a situation where we have drivers who drive with the risk of being arrested in the evening and held," Pellerin said. □

Eurozone consumer prices falling once again due to cheap oil price

PAN PYLAS
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Consumer prices across the 19-country eurozone fell in September for the first time in half a year as energy prices tanked, official figures showed Wednesday, in a development that's likely to ratchet up pressure on the European Central Bank to give the region more stimulus.

The 0.1 percent annual decline reported by Eurostat, the EU's statistics office, was widely anticipated following the recent drop in global oil prices. Energy prices were a whopping 8.9 percent lower in September than the year before, more than the 7.2 percent drag registered in August.

The impact of energy costs is evident in the fact that, when they are stripped out of the calculations, consumer prices were 1 percent higher in the year to September. If food, alcohol and tobacco are also taken out, the eurozone's so-called core inflation rate stood at an unchanged 0.9 percent.

Though anticipated, the negative headline rate is likely to be a disappointment to policymakers at the ECB who this year launched a 1.1 trillion euro (\$1.2 trillion) stimulus program in the hope of getting inflation back toward target. The ECB aims for an inflation rate of just below 2 percent.

For a while, the stimulus appeared to be helping to bring inflation back up. It weakened the euro, making imports pricier, and it helped boost the economy by making exports more competitive and keeping borrowing rates low. In April, a four-month run of negative inflation came to an end.

Falling prices sound good in principle and can be, if temporary — many economists think the current period of weak or negative inflation is a boon to economic activity since it's largely due to weak oil prices. Lower fuel costs mean consumers and businesses have more money to spend elsewhere.

The problem is when falling prices become entrenched in an economy. So-called deflation can weigh on economic activity, as in Japan in recent years. Falling prices over a long period of time can prompt consumers to delay spending in hopes of bargains down the line and make businesses reluctant to invest and innovate.

There has been some evidence that the eurozone economy picked up some pace this year but it still lags the growth of the U.S. It still faces debt problems in many countries, notably Greece, that mean governments have to limit their spending. And the eurozone is going to need a lot of economic growth over a sustained period if unemployment is to come down significantly. Eurostat said Wednesday that unemployment across the region fell by a modest 1,000 in August to 17.60 million, which left the jobless rate at 11 percent.

ECB President Mario Draghi has said the bank stands ready to provide more stimulus for the eurozone. Earlier this month, he said the bank could increase the "size, composition and duration of the program."

The ECB is pumping 60 billion euros a month in newly printed money into the eurozone economy by buying financial assets, mainly government bonds. The program is slated to run at least through September 2016.

Bill Adams, senior international economist at PNC Financial Services Group, said the drop in consumer prices won't be enough to prompt the ECB to take further action just yet. □



Aruba Marriott Invites Locals, Visitors to Visit La Vista And Sands Eatery During “Eat Local Restaurant Week”



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Among being known for its white sand beaches and crystal clear water Aruba is also known for having a one of a kind cuisine. Island visitors are always eager in savoring some of Aruba's traditional dishes. The first Eat Local Restaurant Week organized by the Aruba Tourism Authority aims to highlight just that, showcasing locally inspired dishes from participating restau-

rants.

During this week locals and tourists can enjoy a specially priced lunch menu at La Vista restaurant starting off with any of two appetizers and two entrée options. One of our favorites is the Keeshi Yena, which consists of a seasoned chicken mixture topped off with layers of melting Dutch cheese. The Sands Eatery's allows you to dine under the stars with a variety of options for dinner, including our own Aruban version of ceviche, a special creation by our Peruvian native Executive Chef, Teddy Bouroncle.

The Eat Local Week runs from September 28th till October 9th, with the second annual Iron Chef taking place on October 8th. Aruba Marriott's very own Executive Chef Teddy Bouroncle is contending

against two other chefs for the title of Iron Chef 2015. Chef Teddy started his successful culinary career in Peru and expanded his background in countries all over the world including

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At La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino:

Festivities Continue To Mark Resort's 25th Silver Anniversary

EAGLE BEACH - A recent informal celebration at the associate cafeteria marked the resort's 25th anniversary, with cake and fruit punch. La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino held a public concert in August to commemorate the occasion, but again celebrated it with a festive lunch this week. Managing a resort of 449 rooms is definitely a dai-

ly undertaking and over the years La Cabana has faced small and large challenges of varying nature, from financial to legal, managerial and organizational. However, it always made it a point to keep its people, as the main focus. The heart of the resort beats for its associates and guests, and management always believed that if you treat associates right, they

will in turn treat guests the same way, and even better. With more than 60% of the associates enjoying more than 15 years of service, and others celebrating their 25th anniversary with the resort, La Cabana is blessed with a solid and loyal associates' base, as well as local and international members. Rewarded over the years

with several Shoco awards, Interval International Premier status awards, a Hall of Fame award from Trip Advisor, and the Earth-Check Platinum Award, La Cabana is currently ranked high in the top 10 regional time share resorts. With values such as CARE, LOYALTY, APPRECIATION and PASSION, the wellbeing and development of associates and guests are

maintained as primary concerns, while the resort continues delivering exceptional service in support of the island's tourism economy. Proud of its 25th anniversary as a stable and independent local resort with incredible people, management and staffers thank the people of Aruba for their many contributions to the silver anniversary. □



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Expedia Group Reports Rapid Increase in Caribbean Mobile Bookings

ORANJESTAD - New data released by the Expedia group, one of the world's leading travel companies, reveals a healthy increase in mobile bookings within the Caribbean market, with a growth of more than 55 percent in the first half of 2015 when compared to the same timeframe in 2014. Mobile bookings, which have been growing in nearly all of Expedia group's markets, allow travelers to make their travel bookings on the go.

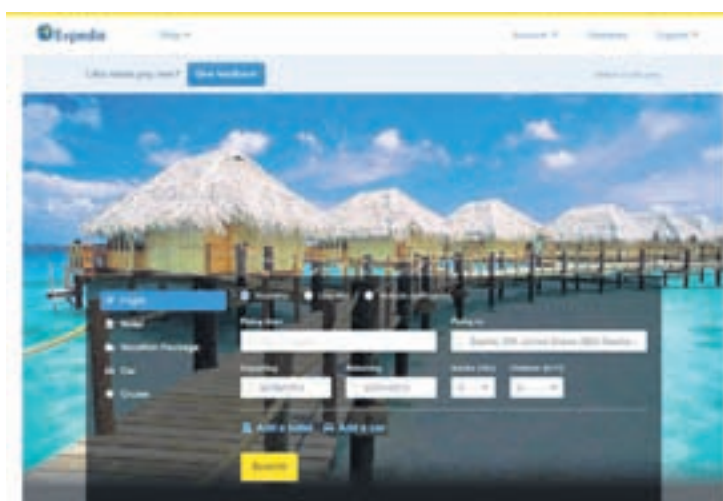
Major markets reporting a growth in mobile transactions in the first two quarters of 2015 include:

-Punta Cana, Dominican Republic: nearly 55 percent increase

-San Juan, Puerto Rico: more than 50 percent increase

-Montego Bay, Jamaica: nearly 50 percent increase

Unique to the Caribbean, Expedia group data indicates that unlike other global Expedia markets, which generally feature



same day bookings on mobile devices, the largest share of Caribbean mobile purchases occur in the 31 - 60 day window. This atypical timeframe provides hotel partners with the opportunity to capitalize on Expedia group's advanced mobile technology by managing prices beforehand to secure optimal bookings.

"Today's technology has revolutionized the way we do business. Expedia group's cutting-edge mobile applications allow

travelers to plan their trips and book in a convenient, flexible way," said Demetrius Canton, Director of Lodging Partner Services for the Caribbean, the Expedia group. "Expedia group consistently provides expert advice to valued partners on how to take advantage of our various platforms and participate in exclusive mobile promotions, flash sales and more, creating opportunities for both the consumer and the hotelier."

Jonathan Valdez, Execu-

tive Revenue Manager for Royal Resorts, has experienced the benefits of these technology innovations first-hand, saying "[our] Expedia partnership has been a winning relationship and our growth with them has been double digits over the past three years. New Expedia technologies, such as their mobile friendly website or mobile app, have helped make booking reservations faster, easier and safer for our guests." Hotel partners such as Bahia Principe Hotels in the Dominican Republic have experienced significant results utilizing Expedia group's mobile platforms. By taking advantage of Expedia group's powerful technology and providing exclusive mobile promotions, the brand has generated nearly 120 percent growth in mobile bookings during the first half of the year when compared to the same time in 2014. "Today's technology is advancing rapidly and we

must adapt to these new trends. We can now manage a tremendous number of our daily life activities through the use of mobile devices, and planning a vacation is no exception. Our business strategy has been tailored to capture this audience through dynamic actions, and as a result we have obtained significant growth in the first two quarters of the year, which in part is due to our partnership with Expedia," stated Ana Medina, Ecommerce Manager for the Americas, Bahia Principe Hotel & Resorts.

The Expedia group provides hotel partners with access to tremendous volume and variety of travelers worldwide through more than 150 websites in more than 70 countries worldwide, in addition to a myriad of mobile sites and apps, from brands such as Expedia®, Hotels.com®, Hotwire®, Egencia®, Travelocity® and Venere®. □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing.

A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean.

What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009



Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included.

You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com

Driftwood Restaurant. This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 www.driftwoodaruba.com Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.



In this Oct. 1, 1975, file photo, Joe Frazier speaks with reporters after losing to Muhammed Ali by TKO in the 14th round of their heavyweight title fight in Manila, Philippines.

Associated Press

Ali, Frazier and the cost of the Thrilla in Manilla

TIM DAHLBERG

AP Sports Columnist

It was, Muhammad Ali would later say, the closest thing to death he had ever known.

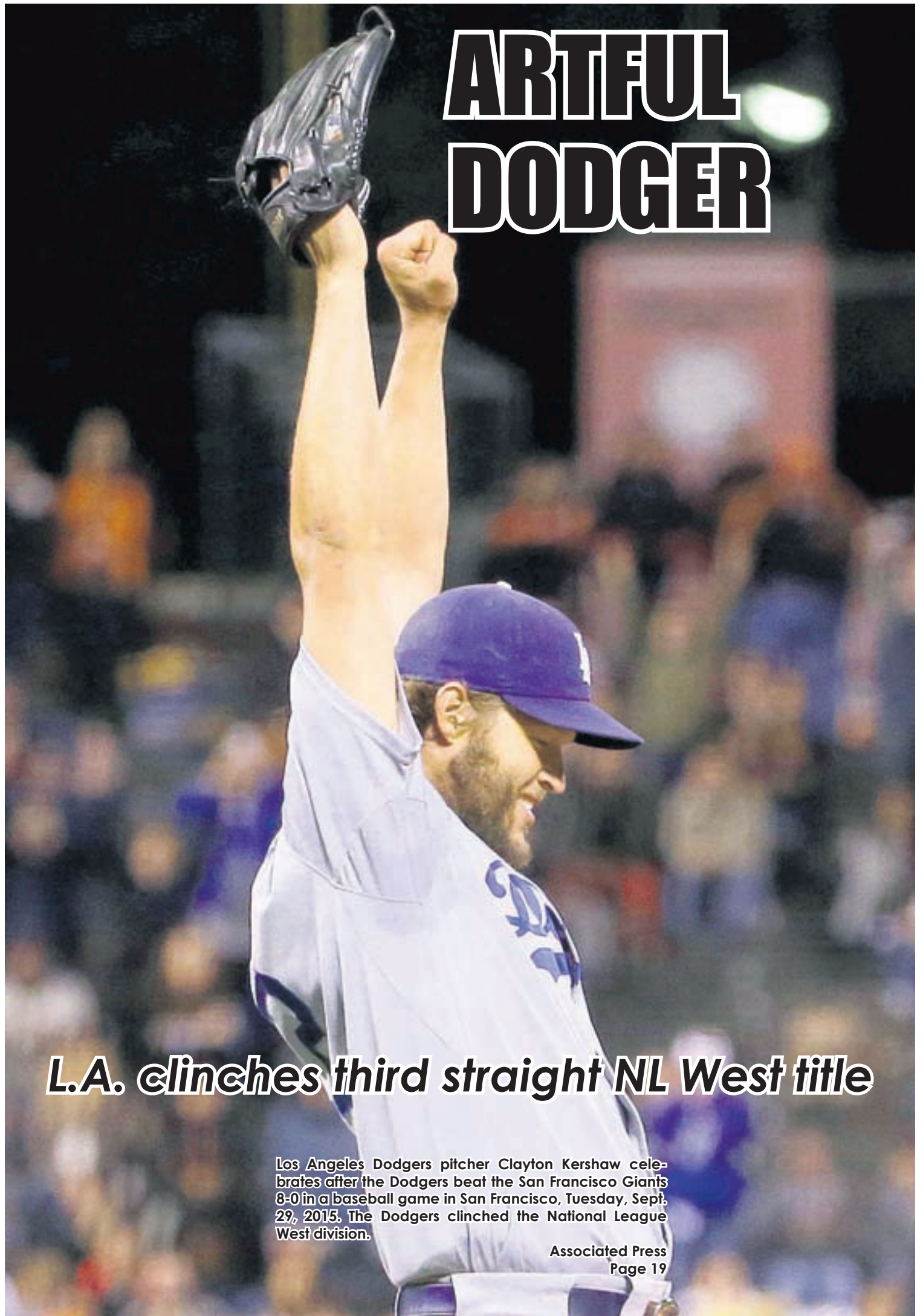
He and Joe Frazier had gone 14 brutal rounds in stifling heat of a Philippines morning before Frazier's trainer Eddie Futch mercifully signaled things to an end, his fighter blind and battered and feeling pretty close to death himself.

It was the final time the two fighters would meet in a trilogy that transcended the sport of boxing. The last meeting would take place in the most unlikely of places, and be a fight so epic it would live up to its name.

It was 40 years ago, Oct. 1, 1975, and the "Thrilla in Manilla" was just that. Neither fighter gave an inch as Frazier relentlessly pursued Ali, and Ali responded by unleashing the fury of his fists on the oncoming challenger's head.

"They told me Joe Frazier was washed up," Ali said to Frazier at one point.

Continued on Page 21



ARTFUL DODGER

L.A. clinches third straight NL West title

Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw celebrates after the Dodgers beat the San Francisco Giants 8-0 in a baseball game in San Francisco, Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015. The Dodgers clinched the National League West division.

Associated Press
Page 19

The recent past shows a dynamic future in golf

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — The most compelling competition in golf used to be who would emerge as a veritable rival for Rory McIlroy.

Just one year later, McIlroy is No. 3 in the world.

That's likely to change by the end of the year because McIlroy is really good and he still has four more tournaments to play. But to look back makes for an interesting question going forward:

What will golf look like one year from now?

Because if 2015 was any indication, this could be the start of either a "Big Three" or a really big crowd.

Players in their 20s won 24 of the 47 tournaments on the PGA Tour schedule this year, the most since the tour began keeping such records in 1970. And for the first time since the world ranking began in 1986, there has been a different No. 1 player for six consecutive weeks. Consider where some of the leading players were when the PGA Tour season ended last year. McIlroy looked unstoppable. He won the British Open and the PGA Championship, with a World Golf Championship title in between, and he built such a big margin in the world ranking that it looked as though he would hold that spot down for years to come.

Who was going to take it away from?

Jordan Spieth had gone 35 tournaments and 14 months since his only victory, the John Deere Classic. He won that as a 19-year-old rookie by holing out from a bunker on the 18th hole and getting another chance when David Hearn missed a 3-foot putt for the win in a playoff. No one was calling him "Golden Child" back then.

Jason Day was still somewhat of a mystery. He finally picked up his second PGA Tour victory in the Match Play Championship early in the 2014 season, only to be



Rory McIlroy hits from the second tee during first round play in the Tour Championship golf tournament at East Lake Club Thursday, Sept. 24, 2015, in Atlanta.

Associated Press



Jason Day, left, of Australia, talks with Jordan Spieth on the 10th green, during the first round of the BMW Championship golf tournament at Conway Farms Golf Club, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2015, in Lake Forest, Ill.

Associated Press

sidelined with yet another injury. He didn't finish within seven shots at any of the majors.

Rickie Fowler finished in the top five at all four majors. The good news? At least it took attention away from the fact he only had one PGA Tour win in five years. Dustin Johnson was nowhere to be found. He was in the second month of what turned out to be a six-month break from golf to

get help for "personal challenges."

And it's worth mentioning Tiger Woods. His year was disrupted by back surgery, though he still was No. 16 in the world and was taking the rest of the year off to get fully healed. Expectations were strong until he bladed that bunker shot over the green and into the grandstands during the Phoenix Open pro-am.

Look at how much the

landscape has changed since then.

Spieth accomplished more in seven months than some players do in an entire career — the Masters, U.S. Open and Tour Championship among his five victories, a record \$12 million to win the money title and at age 22, the second-youngest player behind Woods to reach No. 1 in the world.

Day also won five times this year. He won his first major

at the PGA Championship, where he set a record as the first player to finish a major at 20-under par. He reached No. 1 in the world for one week after winning the BMW Championship. Odds are the 27-year-old Aussie will get there again. Fowler couldn't even beat Ian Poulter in an anonymous survey of his peers. They tied for most overrated. But there was nothing overrated about the way he won The Players Championship with an eagle-birdie-birdie finish in regulation, and two more birdies on the island-green 17th at the TPC Sawgrass. He birdied two of his last three holes to win the Scottish Open and rallied to win at the TPC Boston.

And it's not like McIlroy went into a slump.

He won in Dubai early in the year, and when the spotlight began to shine on Spieth in a green jacket, McIlroy responded by winning the Match Play Championship and the Wells Fargo Championship in a span of three weeks to remind the world that he could still play this game.

He just can't play soccer as well. A freak ankle injury kicking around the ball with friends in Northern Ireland kept McIlroy out for two months and prevented him from defending his title at St. Andrews.

After the Presidents Cup, Day is taking the rest of the year off to get even stronger and more fit. His work ethic is frightening. Spieth has two trips to Asia in the next month (Presidents Cup, HSBC Champions) and two titles to defend in Australia and The Bahamas. His biggest challenge is what to do for an encore. Spieth, Day and McIlroy shared the stage in a banner year for the PGA Tour. A one-man show turned into a Three Ring Circus.

What's next?

Nothing immediately. Barring any schedule changes, these three won't be in the same tournament for another five months. □

NL Capsules

Dodgers clinch NL West crown with shutout win vs. Giants

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Clayton Kershaw pitched the big-money Dodgers to their third straight NL West title, tossing a 1-hitter as Los Angeles beat the San Francisco Giants 8-0 on Tuesday night.

Kershaw allowed just a third-inning single and struck out 13, and the Dodgers (88-69) advance to face the NL East champion New York Mets in the best-of-five NL Division Series.

Kershaw (16-7) finally got the best of his 2015 nemesis in their fourth matchup of the year, striking out the side in order three times and retiring the final 19 batters as the Dodgers snapped a four-game losing streak.

Don Mattingly's Dodgers earned a third straight playoff berth for the first time in franchise history, and did so by snapping a seven-game losing streak at AT&T Park this year. It's also their sixth postseason berth in 10 years.

Justin Ruggiano and A.J. Ellis hit back-to-back home runs in the sixth to chase World Series MVP Madison Bumgarner (18-9), denying the Giants their first 19-game winner in 18 years.

CUBS 4, REDS 1

CINCINNATI (AP) — Miguel Montero doubled home a pair of runs during Chicago's four-run first inning, and Dan Haren pitched into the eighth following a long rain delay.

The Cubs already have



Los Angeles Dodgers players celebrate after beating the San Francisco Giants in a baseball game in San Francisco, Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015. The Dodgers won 8-0 to clinch the National League West division.

Associated Press

clinched a spot in the NL wild-card game for their first playoff berth since 2008. They trail Pittsburgh by three games for home-field advantage. The Pirates' game against first-place St. Louis was rained out on Tuesday.

The Reds lost their season-high 10th in a row, their longest slump since they dropped 11 straight in 1998.

PHILLIES 4, METS 3

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Darin Ruf hit a three-run homer, Odubel Herrera had four hits and Philadelphia snapped New York's franchise-record 11-game road winning streak.

Lucas Duda hit two homers for the NL East champion Mets, who hadn't lost

away from home since Sept. 6, at Miami. Duda hit a two-run shot off Ken Giles on an 0-2 pitch in the ninth before Giles retired Travis d'Arnaud for his 14th save in 18 chances.

Bartolo Colon (14-13) allowed three runs and eight hits in five innings for his first loss to the Phillies since Aug. 30, 2014. He beat them four times this season.

Adam Loewen (1-0) retired the only batter he faced in relief of starter David Buchanan to earn his first win since 2007 with Baltimore. The lefty struck out Duda with runners on second and third to end the fifth.

BRAVES 2, NATIONALS 1

ATLANTA (AP) — A.J. Pierzynski hit two home runs

and rookie Matt Wisler threw seven strong innings as Atlanta beat Washington for just its fourth win in 17 tries against the Nats.

Wisler (7-8) picked up the victory, giving up one run while striking out four and walking two. Rookie Aroldys Vizcaino recorded his eighth save in nine chances. With runners on first and second and no outs in the ninth, Ian Desmond bunted into a 2-5-4 double play. Vizcaino then struck out Matt den Dekker to end it. Tanner Roark (4-7), who rejoined the Nationals' rotation in September, took the loss. He handled everyone in the Braves' lineup except Pierzynski, who was 3 for 3, giving up just five hits and

two runs in 6 2-3 innings. He struck out four, walked one and hit a batter.

DIAMONDBACKS 4, ROCKIES 3 (11 INNINGS)

PHOENIX (AP) — Pinch-hitter Phil Gosselin singled in the winning run after Colorado reliever Brooks Brown walked the bases loaded in the 11th inning.

Gosselin knocked in Paul Goldschmidt from third base with one out after Brown (1-3), the eighth of nine pitchers for the Rockies on the night, walked the three batters he faced in the inning. A.J. Pollock, Goldschmidt and David Peralta reached base after Brown threw 11 straight balls. Christian Friedrich gave up the winning hit. Randall Delgado (7-4) pitched a scoreless top of the 11th.

BREWERS 4, PADRES 3

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Jean Segura hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the sixth inning to help Jorge Lopez win his major league debut. Lopez (1-0) allowed three runs and eight hits in five innings, struck out seven and walked two. The 22-year-old's contract was selected a week earlier from Double-A Biloxi, where he went 12-5 with a 2.26 ERA in 24 starts.

The Brewers trailed 3-2 going into the sixth. Khris Davis singled to left and Segura hit a one-out homer off Tyson Ross (10-12) into the balcony on the third level of the Western Metal Supply Co. Building in the left-field corner. □

Court strikes down possible payments to college athletes

RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

A federal appeals court struck down a plan to pay college football and basketball players in a ruling that NCAA leaders believe supports their contention that the athletes are students and not professionals.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed Wednesday that the NCAA's use of college athletes' names, images and likenesses in video games and TV

broadcasts violated anti-trust laws, but vacated a judge's decision that would have allowed schools to make deferred cash payments to athletes of up to \$5,000 per year.

"The difference between offering student-athletes education-related compensation and offering them cash sums untethered to educational expenses is not minor; it is a quantum leap," Judge Jay Bybee wrote. "Once that line is crossed, we see no

basis for returning to a rule of amateurism and no defined stopping point."

NCAA President Mark Emmert said: "That was a very, very welcome decision from our point."

The NCAA had appealed U.S. District Judge Claudia Wilken's 2014 decision in the so-called O'Bannon case to allow — but not require — players in the top division of college football and in Division I men's basketball to be paid for

use of their names, images and likenesses. The money would have been put in a trust fund and given to them when they left school. Wilken also ruled that those players should be compensated with the full cost of attendance. The NCAA in August began allowing its member schools to provide an athletic scholarship that covers the full cost of attending college, though officials say it should not be mandated by the courts. Previously, an athletic

scholarship covered tuition, room and board, books and fees. Now NCAA rules allow schools to raise the value to include other expenses, such as travel, that come with attending college. Schools determine their cost of attendance using federal guidelines.

"There are elements of (Wednesday's) ruling that are either unknown at this point or are things that we would tend to disagree with the court," Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby said. □

AL Capsules

Pujols, Aybar send Angels to 7th straight win

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Albert Pujols had an RBI double among his three hits, Erick Aybar drove in three runs and the Los Angeles Angels took over the lead for the second AL wild-card playoff spot with their seventh consecutive victory.

A few minutes after matching their longest winning streak of the season, the Angels (83-74) moved a half-game ahead of the Astros (83-75) when Houston lost 6-4 at Seattle.

Nick Tropeano (3-2) struck out 11 during 6 2-3 innings of three-hit ball for the Angels, who have won 10 of 12 overall during their majors-best 18-8 run through September.

The Angels remained two games behind the AL West-leading Texas Rangers (85-72), who beat Detroit. The Minnesota Twins (81-75) were rained out in Cleveland, dropping them 1 1-2 games behind Los Angeles in the wild-card race.

With four games in Texas to close the season, the Angels are in control of their playoff destiny no matter the result of the wild-card race. Rebounding splendidly from an awful August, the Angels have chased down the AL leaders with five games to play.

MARINERS 6, ASTROS 4

SEATTLE (AP) — Shawn O'Malley damaged Houston's playoff hopes with a two-run, bases-loaded single in the eighth inning that gave Seattle a comeback victory.

The Astros, who are still involved in two postseason races, were displaced in the American League wild-card chase by the Los Angeles Angels, an 8-1 winner over Oakland on Tuesday. The New York Yankees,



Los Angeles Angels' Albert Pujols, left, celebrates after he scored on a single hit by David Murphy as Oakland Athletics catcher Stephen Vogt looks away during the first inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015, in Anaheim, Calif.

who lost to Boston 10-4, maintains the top wild-card spot with the Angels now second. Houston slips a half-game behind Los Angeles.

As for the AL West race, division-leading Texas beat Detroit 7-6, and has a two-game lead over the Angels and 2 1-2 over the Astros.

The victory broke the Mariners' six-game losing streak. Robinson Cano hit his 20th home run, a two-run shot in the sixth off Mike Fiers that tied the game at 4-all.

RANGERS 7, TIGERS 6

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Cole Hamels won his sixth consecutive decision, overcoming a shaky start to strike out eight in six innings, and AL West-leading Texas snapped a three-game skid.

Texas' lead in the division stretched to two games, with the Angels leapfrog-

ging Houston for second place — the Astros are 2 1/2 games back. Los Angeles starts a four-game series in Texas Thursday to end the regular season.

Adrian Beltre had three hits and drove in two runs, including Shin-Soo Choo when they had consecutive doubles in the fourth to break a 6-all tie. Choo also had a two-run homer in the first.

Hamels is 6-1 in 11 starts since getting traded from Philadelphia at the end of July, and the Rangers have won his last nine starts after losing the first two. The lefty surpassed 200 innings for the seventh time in his career and 200 strikeouts for the fourth time.

Buck Farmer (0-4), the second of six Detroit pitchers, retired the first six batters he faced.

RED SOX 10, YANKEES 4

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Pineda was hit hard at the start, and New York's playoff push was delayed once again by its longtime rival as Boston got two homers and five RBIs from rookie catcher Blake Swihart.

Rick Porcello (9-14) recovered neatly from a rocky first inning, and the Red Sox won their season-best fifth straight game to pass the Orioles for third place in the AL East.

New York is running second in the division and was spared the possibility of the Blue Jays clinching the crown when they were rained out in Baltimore. Toronto will play a doubleheader Wednesday against the Orioles and needs only one win — or another Yankees loss — to wrap up its first AL East title in 22 years.

Pineda (12-9) and the Yankees began the day looking to lock up at least a wild card, but that chance was washed away when Minnesota was rained out in Cleveland. New York needs two wins in its final

five games — or some help — to reach the postseason for the first time since 2012.

WHITE SOX 4, ROYALS 2

CHICAGO (AP) — Eric Hosmer and Kendrys Morales homered and Johnny Cueto threw six quality innings, but Kansas City lost to Chicago.

The Royals, who have lost four of their last five, fell behind 3-0 after Adam Eaton drove a two-run homer into the bullpen in right field off Cueto (10-13) in the fifth inning.

Cueto lost for the third time in his four September outings and gave up three runs and eight hits over six innings. He struck out two and walked two.

Kansas City got within 3-2 in the sixth when Hosmer and Morales hit back-to-back homers off Chicago starter Jeff Samardzija (11-13), who won for the second straight time after losing nine of his 10 previous outings.

The runs were the first the Royals scored in 17 innings during a three-game stretch that included Kansas City being shut out 1-0 in 11 innings by the Chicago Cubs on Monday night.

RAYS 4, MARLINS 2

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Asdrubal Cabrera hit a go-ahead two-run homer in the eighth inning, a one-out drive off Bryan Morris (5-4), to push the Rays to 12-6 in interleague play this season.

Adam Conley gave up two runs and five hits over six innings for the Marlins, who had a five-game winning streak end. Miami dropped to 0-8 in road games against American League teams this season.

Tampa Bay's Matt Moore, bidding to win consecutive starts, allowed one run and seven hits in seven innings. Miami pulled even at 2 in the eighth on Martin Prado's run-scoring single off Alex Colome (7-5). Brad Boxberger pitched the ninth for his 39th save. □

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Dodgers clinch NL West crown with shutout win vs. Giants

Continued from Page 19

The Associated Press

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Associated Press

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NL Capsules

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HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 4:30 | 6:35 | 8:40
FRI 4:30 | 6:35 | 8:40
SAT 2:25 | 4:30 | 6:35 | 8:40
SUN & HOL 2:25 | 4:30 | 6:35 | 8:40

JASON CLARKE | ANG PHUA, SHERPA
EVEREST
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 5:40 | 7:50
FRI 5:40 | 7:50
SAT 3:30 | 5:40 | 7:50
SUN & HOL 3:30 | 5:40 | 7:50

ALSO SHOWING!

EMILY BLUNT | BENICIO DEL TORO
SICARIO
MON-THURS 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:25
FRI 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:25 | 10:45 | 12:05
SAT 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:25 | 10:45 | 12:05
SUN & HOL 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:25

DYLAN O'BRIEN | KAYA SCODELARIO
SCORCH TRIALS
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 6:15
FRI 6:15
SAT 6:15
SUN & HOL 6:15

ANNE HATHAWAY | ROBERT DE NIRO
INTERN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:10
FRI 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:10 | 11:50
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SUN & HOL 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:10

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Fever and Lynx to meet in WNBA Finals in rematch of '12

DOUG FEINBERG

AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Four years ago, Tamika Catchings and the Indiana Fever came into the WNBA Finals as a huge underdog to Minnesota.

Catchings and her squad put forth an incredible effort to pull off the upset, knocking off the Lynx in four games to win their only championship in franchise history.

Now the Lynx stand in the way again of the Fever, who, as Catchings put it, weren't even expected to make it out of the first round of the playoffs. The series will begin Sunday in Minnesota.

"Nobody thought we'd win the first series," Catchings said. "No one thought we'd win this round. No

one thinks we'll win the finals. We're not done yet." Catchings, who announced she's retiring at the end of next season, has willed her team to victories. The Fever won the final two games in the opening round against Chicago. Then, against New York, the Fever swept the final two contests, rallying from an 18-point deficit in the second quarter in Game 2 to force Tuesday's contest, which they won 66-51.

"This is awesome," Catchings said. "If you had asked me before the season if I'd be sitting right here, we're going to try, I don't know. To be sitting here means a lot for the organization, for my team."

Almost everyone thought Minnesota would be playing for a championship. It

was the preseason favorite to win a third championship in five seasons, and the Lynx nearly have Olympians at every position, headlined by Maya Moore. Still, Catchings has found a way to will her team to victories. Indiana is 8-2 in elimination games the past four seasons, and Catchings is a main reason why. She's averaged 20.4 points in those contests. She had 14 points and a bunch of key defensive plays in the win over the Liberty on Tuesday night.

She'll have her hands full with the Lynx and Moore. The 2014 MVP came up with a huge defensive play at the end of Game 2's win over Phoenix, and then hit the game-winning free throw with 1.5 seconds left after a foul call that



Indiana Fever forward Tamika Catchings (24) reacts against the New York Liberty during the second half in Game 3 of the WNBA basketball Eastern Conference finals at Madison Square Garden in New York, Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015

Associated Press

the league later said never should have been made. She finished with a playoff career-best 40 points.

"You just keep playing until the last horn," Moore said. "I

was just anticipating them passing the ball inside and just tried to get a deflection. That's what I've been trying to do all year, lead my team in deflections." □

U.S. women's basketball team to train in Europe



Phoenix Mercury's Brittney Griner (42) reacts to picking up her fourth foul against the Minnesota Lynx, during Game 2 of the WNBA basketball Western Conference finals, Sunday, Sept. 27, 2015, in Phoenix.

Associated Press

DOUG FEINBERG

AP Basketball Writer

Fresh off their WNBA seasons, Elena Delle Donne, Candace Parker and Sue Bird will lead a group of U.S. basketball players to Europe to train in preparation for next year's Olympics.

"It's nice to get a group together, since we have limited time because of everyone's schedules," Bird said. "There are only a few

times a year that we can practice, and we need to make the most of it."

Joining them will be Stefanie Dolson, Candice Dupree, Angel McCoughtry, Danielle Robinson, Courtney Vandersloot and Tina Charles. Brittney Griner will be with the team after serving a suspension mandated by USA Basketball for her domestic violence arrest in April. Griner will miss

about 20 percent of camp once she gets there.

"USA Basketball does not condone violence of any sort," CEO Jim Tooley said. "Brittney accepted responsibility for her actions and has been complying with the court order to attend domestic violence counseling and has served a seven-game suspension in the WNBA."

"USA Basketball has con-

ducted extensive interviews with everyone involved, and because Brittney has continued to show remorse and has dealt with this issue head-on, USA Basketball believes that the discipline it is imposing on Brittney is appropriate and fair."

UConn senior Breanna Stewart will also be making the trip. The three-time Final Four most outstanding player was part of the FIBA world championship team that won a gold medal last fall and qualified the Amer-

icans for the 2016 Olympics in Rio.

The Americans will be missing five members of the 2012 Olympic team: Maya Moore, Seimone Augustus, Lindsay Whalen, Sylvia Fowles and Tamika Catchings are playing in the WNBA Finals that begin Sunday.

"It's one of the obstacles that we have every Olympic year — the amount of time we get with our players," said U.S. coach Geno Auriemma. "This is another

Refs in replay center will make some rulings on NBA reviews

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA says current referees will staff its replay center this season and be able to make decisions in certain situations.

All replay reviews will still be triggered by the three reviews on the court. However, they will no longer make all the calls after the reviews, as some will now be

done in the Secaucus, New Jersey facility that opened last season.

Those will include determinations such as whether a shot was a 2- or 3-pointer, or whether it beat the shot clock or end of quarter buzzer. Out of bounds calls and goaltending rulings also will be handled by the replay center. □

Why phones break: Screens get stronger, yet we demand more

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Ask a roomful of people to take out their phones, and you're bound to see several with cracked screens. Despite engineering breakthroughs, screen breakage has become a part of life, the leading type of phone damage.

In part, we're to blame. We want phones that are bigger, yet thinner, offsetting strides made in strengthening glass. We also want phones to be sleek: A phone that's rugged enough to withstand drops just won't match what we expect smartphones to look and feel like.

"The tradeoff is phones get a lot bigger and bulkier," said Rick Osterloh, president of phone maker Motorola. "Without a really big innovation and technological breakthrough, it's going to be hard to (make a really tough phone) in a size people expect."

That's not to say phones aren't getting stronger.

In fact, given how frequently we use phones throughout the day, juggling them as we commute, run errands and chase after small children, it's amazing screens don't crack even more.

The latest phones from the two leading phone makers — Apple's iPhone 6s and 6s Plus, and Samsung's Galaxy Note 5 and S6 Edge Plus — mix zinc into the aluminum frames for aero-

space-grade strength. The frames will absorb more of the shock that would have gone to the glass, not to mention help prevent the phones from bending in pockets.

The displays also use ion-strengthened glass. Samsung uses Corning's Gorilla Glass 4, which gets heated in a process that replaces sodium ions on the surface with potassium ions. Because potassium ions are larger, they press together to create a stronger surface — akin to a layer of armor to protect the interior. Apple turned to Corning for a custom glass that goes through two rounds of ion exchange for greater strength.

Even some budget and mid-range phones, including Motorola's, are now using strengthened glass, though made with older, weaker formulas.

With strengthened glass, you can still pierce the armor with enough pressure, but it's harder than with normal glass.

SquareTrade, which offers protection plans for consumer electronics, said that while phone screens used to crack after one or two drops, the latest iPhones and the Note 5 survived 10 drops each from six feet in tests last weekend, at least when dropped on their corners. SquareTrade also said the new iPhone screens are more durable than last year's models. (It didn't test the Note 5's pre-



In this Aug. 26, 2015 photo, Samsung and Apple cellular phones undergo a slide test at SquareTrade's offices in San Francisco. Despite engineering breakthroughs, screen breakage has become a part of life, the leading type of phone damage.

Associated Press

Shopify adds 'buy now' button for Twitter users

The Associated Press

Twitter users soon will be able to shop with a new "Buy Now" button from the e-commerce company Shopify.

Shopify says it is starting a partnership with Twitter that will allow U.S.-based businesses to sell products directly on the social media website. Any product tweeted from a merchant's store will include the buy button that allows customers to make a purchase

within their Twitter timeline. Canada-based Shopify has introduced similar buttons for Pinterest and Facebook.

Shopify Inc. works with merchants who want to offer their own online checkout services, providing a platform for small- and mid-size businesses that sell products online. Clients can use Shopify's software to handle sales made through mobile phones, the Web, and other means. □

decessor for comparison.) But for all three new phones, the screens broke right away when dropped face down on concrete. The stronger glass improves the odds, but the risk isn't zero. Scott Forester, director of innovations for Gorilla Glass, said Corning has made strides in withstanding the types of surfaces most likely to puncture glass, including asphalt and concrete. But he said that's offset by glass getting thinner and screens bigger over the years in response to consumer demand.

"It's always this fine balance between practicality and design," Forester said. SquareTrade said half of its damage claims are for screen cracks. That doesn't include cracked phones people hang onto because they don't want to pay a \$75 deductible. Melissa Lefas has dropped her iPhone 5s a few times, but its screen survived until the phone slipped out of an open backpack while she was carrying groceries and leaning over to unlock a bike. It landed on a New York sidewalk made

of stone — a jagged surface perfect for puncturing glass.

"I heard it and knew it was a goner," she said. "I've seen so many people with cracked screens. I felt it was a matter of time." Aware of consumers' frustrations with breakage, HTC is offering one free replacement for any damage, including cracks, to its HTC One smartphone within the first year. Unlike standard warranties, accidents are covered.

For other phones, we might simply have to get a case, insurance or both.

Cases offer no guarantees, but they help. When Ben Wilson's iPhone 5 fell out of a private plane he was co-piloting at 9,300 feet, the case shattered but the phone survived. It helped that the phone landed on a pasture in northern Texas rather than a stone sidewalk.

"It surprised me," Wilson said, talking on that still-functioning phone nearly two weeks later. "I thought it would be in quite a few pieces."

Can more be done? What

about ditching glass for something stronger?

Plastic is one candidate, but it's prone to scratching. Then there's sapphire, a mineral that's just short of diamond in hardness. It's extremely scratch-resistant, but its resistance to cracking is up for debate. It's also tough to manufacture, especially in larger sizes for phone screens. Apple uses sapphire for the smaller displays found on pricier Apple Watch models, as well as for the home button and camera lens cover on iPhones. The material used isn't the only factor in durability. Apple has received a patent for using internal motors to rotate a phone as it drops so that the glass part doesn't hit the ground. There's no word, though, on when we might see this in iPhones.

It might ultimately come down to priorities. Yes, people want phones that don't crack, but they also want better cameras and better video playback, not to mention a sleeker design. Manufacturers have to innovate in all of those areas. □

Wall Street caps turbulent quarter with big gains

BERNARD CONDON

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks rose across the board Wednesday following big gains in Asia and Europe, a buoyant end to the worst quarter for the market in four years. From worries over a slow-

opening of trading and swept across all 10 sectors of the Standard and Poor's 500 index. Among the big gainers, fashion company Ralph Lauren jumped 14 percent after announcing a new CEO would take over from its namesake founder.

fallen seven of the past 10 days, and is off 6.9 percent in the July-September period, the worst quarterly performance since 2011. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 235.57 points, or 1.5 percent, to 16,284.70. It fell 7.6 percent in the quarter. The Nasdaq

second largest, and plunging currencies in developed countries that export to it. The S&P 500 dropped more than 10 percent in August from his May high, a drop known on Wall Street as a "correction." "It's been ugly," said John Canally, an investment strategist at LPL Financial. "We hadn't had a 10 percent pullback since 2011, and people forget how to act."

All five of the biggest drops in the year for the S&P 500 occurred in the last three months. Investors were so jumpy, they even sold on news that previously would have triggered buying. When the Federal Reserve announced earlier this month that it would hold off raising interest rates, the S&P 500 slipped.

On Wednesday, investors mustered enough courage to buy even biotechnology companies, breaking an eight-day streak of drops for the battered sector. The Nasdaq Biotechnology index, down 24 percent from a peak in July, rose 4.5 percent. It fell sharply last week after Democratic presidential front-runner Hillary Clinton tweeted that drug prices were too high, then said she would use government drug-buying programs to slash prices if elected. Among stocks making big moves on Wednesday, Western Digital surged \$10.57, or 15 percent, to \$79.44 after the digital storage company agreed to a \$3.8 billion investment from China's Unisplendour Corp. □



Trader Gregory Rowe, left, and specialist Paul Cosentino, right, work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. U.S. stocks rose across the board Wednesday following big gains in Asia and Europe, a buoyant end to the worst quarter for the market in four years.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

ing Chinese economy, uncertainty over interest rates and a scary slide in commodity prices, stocks have been hit with one blow after another in the past three months. But on Wednesday, investors were in the mood to buy, especially stocks that have been battered recently. Energy companies and raw material suppliers, the biggest losers in the quarter, rose more than 2 percent each. The buying began at the

Tim Courtney, chief investment officer of Exencial Wealth Advisors, said it was only a matter of time before investors started buying given the recent drops. "I've been surprised we haven't had rallies like the one we're seeing now," Courtney said. After "so many negative days, you're going to get a bounceback." The S&P 500 jumped 35.94 points, or 1.9 percent, to 1,920.03. The index has

composite climbed 102.84 points, or 2.3 percent, to 4,620.16. The rally in the U.S. followed even bigger gains overseas. Stocks indexes in France, Germany, Britain and Japan all climbed more than 2 percent. The rocky third quarter began with fears over Greece's debt, then moved on to worries about a rout in Chinese stocks, signs of slowing growth in the country, the world's

Chinese investors fined for violating July 'no sell' order

BEIJING (AP) — China's securities regulator has announced the first penalties for violators of a ban imposed in July on stock sales by major shareholders as part of frantic government efforts to stem a slide in prices.

Four investors, five institutions and eight executives were fined a total of 28.4 million yuan (\$4.5 million), the China Securities Regulatory Commission said. It gave no details of their identities.

The announcement, dated Tuesday, said they were the "first batch" of penalties under the July 8 rule, suggesting more might be announced.

The ban on sales by shareholders who own more than 5 percent of a company was one of a flurry of measures imposed after China's main market index fell 30 percent beginning in early June.

The violators' sales "seriously undermined the market order and damaged investor confidence," the securities commission said in a statement.

Other emergency measures included multibillion-dollar stock purchases by a state-owned brokerages and a finance company. Authorities have reduced the scale of those purchases but have set no date for easing the ban on sales by big shareholders.

The stock market slump fueled political tensions and set back Communist Party plans to use financial markets to make China's state-dominated economy more productive. The party wants to encourage stock ownership but small investors whose holdings plunged in value have said they will no longer buy shares.

In a separate case, the police ministry announced Sept. 15 the general manager and other executives of China's biggest stock brokerage, state-owned Citic Securities Ltd., were under investigation on suspicion of insider trading and leaking sensitive information. □

Exxon Mobil to sell troubled California refinery

BRIAN MELLEY

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Exxon Mobil Corp. is selling its troubled Southern California refinery for \$537 million to a New Jersey energy company more than six months after an explosion crippled the plant and led to higher gas prices in the Golden State, according to an announcement Wednesday.

PBF Energy Inc., one of the largest independent oil

refiners in North America, said it will purchase the Torrance plant that can produce 155,000 barrels of oil a day. The refinery near the coast on the edge of Los Angeles has been shut down since an explosion in February injured four contractors, caused heavy damage at the plant and rocked nearby neighbors with the blast. California regulators have fined Exxon Mobil more

than \$566,000 for workplace safety and health violations related to the blast. The shutdown led to a shortage of gas that meets California's stricter pollution regulations and caused higher prices at the pump for drivers in the state. The plant will be operational before the sale is completed next year, PBF Energy said in a statement. The sale also includes other storage facilities and pipe-

lines, including a 116-mile section that delivers San Joaquin Valley crude to the refinery and pipes that provide access to the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles.

Exxon Mobil said 700 employees and 700 contractors work at the refinery. PBF said employees will be offered jobs at the plant. PBF Energy, based in Parsippany, New Jersey, recently bought another Exxon refinery in Louisiana. □

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Ralph Lauren shares continue rally after co. names new CEO

A. D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Ralph Lauren Corp.'s shares extended their rally Wednesday, a day after the fashion company announced it was hiring Old Navy's top talent to take over the CEO job.

Ralph Lauren, 75, who held the title, will remain as executive chairman and chief creative officer

of the fashion and home decor business he created nearly 50 years ago. Stefan Larsson, global president of Gap's Old Navy chain, will become CEO in November and will report to Lauren. Shares of the New York-based company rose 13 percent in afternoon trading Wednesday to \$117.38, after climbing nearly 4 percent in after-hours trading Tuesday when the news

was announced. It's a welcome shot in the arm, considering shares have slumped 44 percent this year, more than 21 percent in just the past three months as sales growth has slowed. The global fashion, home decor and accessories empire has been grappling with a tough economy in Europe, the impact of the strong U.S. dollar, and increased competition in the

luxury business.

The announcement could set in motion a succession plan. But Lauren told The Associated Press on Tuesday, with Larsson sitting at his side in his Madison Avenue office, that he isn't slowing down anytime soon and he isn't leaving. He views Larsson as a partner.

"I am not coming in once a week. No. That's not the plan," he said. "The plan is

we have a great company. We've always had a great company. Whether the stock is up or down or sideways, you can't evaluate it by this moment. You evaluate it on the long-term basis. So my growth has been long-term. My planning has always been long-term. I am always looking for the future and bringing in the right people that will build the company." □

Report: Twitter founder Jack Dorsey to be CEO for 2nd time

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

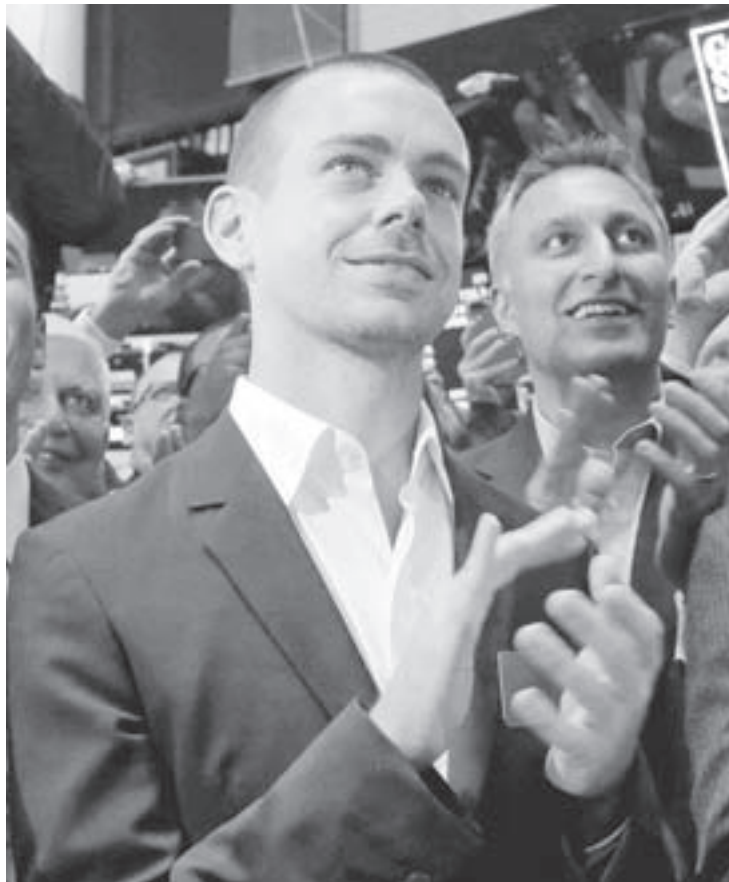
Twitter may be about to end its three-month search for a new CEO where it started: with once-ousted co-founder Jack Dorsey running the short-messaging service.

Dorsey will be named Twitter's permanent CEO as early as Thursday morning, according to the technology news site Re/Code. The report Wednesday cited unnamed people.

Twitter declined to comment.

Dorsey took over as Twitter's interim CEO in July, replacing former stand-up comedian and veteran entrepreneur Dick Costolo. The change in command came amid slowing user growth that exacerbated investor concerns about the Twitter's ability to become more accessible to a wider audience.

Twitter has more than 300 million users, far behind the 1.5 billion people hooked on Facebook's online social network. Even Face-



Twitter Chairman and co-founder Jack Dorsey applauds at the New York Stock Exchange. According to a report posted Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2015 by technology news site Re/Code, Twitter may be about to hire Dorsey as its permanent CEO three months after he took over the job on a temporary basis.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

book's photo-sharing application, Instagram, has surpassed Twitter in size.

Worries about Twitter's future have been compounded by the San Francisco company's inability to turn a profit more than nine years after its inception, even though its revenue has been steadily rising. Shortly after becoming interim CEO, Dorsey acknowledged Twitter's sub-par performance during a review of the company's disappointing second-quarter results.

The qualms about Twitter's future have sunk its stock, which has fallen by nearly 50 percent since late April. The shares rallied after Re/Code's report came out to gain \$1.35, or more than 5 percent, closing Wednesday at \$26.94 in an apparent vote of confidence in Dorsey. If Dorsey is anointed as CEO, it would mark his second reign at the company that he helped start in 2006. He was Twitter's original CEO until being cast

aside in 2008 in a coup engineered by another company co-founder, Evan Williams. Dorsey, 38, remained Twitter's chairman and one of its largest shareholders with a 3 percent stake currently worth about \$600 million. He returned as a company adviser shortly after Costolo replaced Williams as Twitter's CEO in 2010.

A decision to hire Dorsey also might represent an about-face for Twitter's board, which headed into its search for a full-time CEO pledging to only consider candidates who could make a "full-time commitment" to the company. Dorsey is also CEO of mobile payment service Square, a job he has repeatedly said he intends to keep as he prepares to take that San Francisco company public too. The headquarters of Twitter and Square are located a block from each other, making it more convenient to shuttle back and forth between the two companies. □

Chinese solar company blames short-sellers for stock trouble

AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) —

The chairman of a troubled Chinese solar panel manufacturer has denied wrongdoing and blamed short-selling by hedge funds for a plunge in the price of its Hong Kong-traded shares.

Hanergy Thin Film Power Group Ltd. is cooperating with an investigation by Hong Kong regulators following the May 20 suspension in trading of its shares, chairman Li Hejun said in comments released Tues-

day by its Chinese parent company. He urged investigators to finish their work as soon as possible.

Trading in Hanergy shares in Hong Kong was suspended after their price fell by nearly half, wiping \$19 billion off its market value in less than an hour. Li denied suggestions Hanergy engaged in improper dealings with its Chinese parent. He blamed the price fall on "malicious short-selling" — or betting by traders that a share's price will fall — by

hedge funds he did not identify. The share price of Hanergy, a unit of Beijing-based Hanergy Holding Group, soared over the year before its suspension, making Li one of China's richest businessmen but prompting warnings the increase was dangerously fast. Financial analysts questioned the Hong Kong company's reliance on making the bulk of its sales to its Chinese parent.

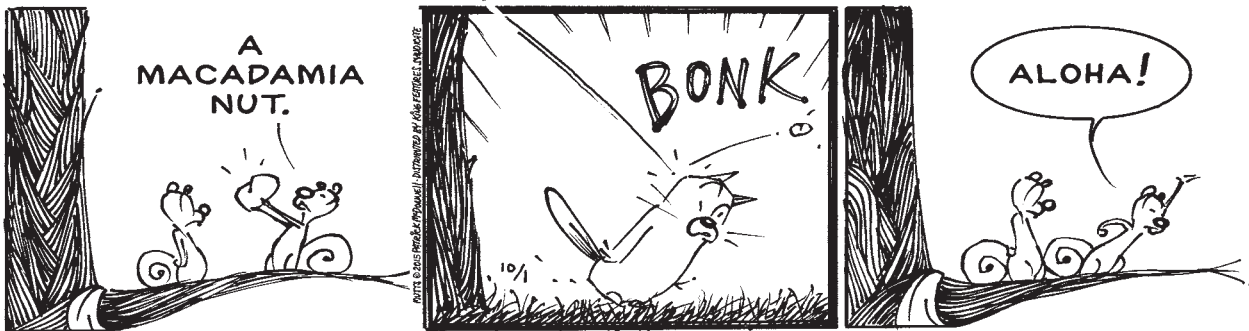
"The only big winner is short-sellers," said Li at an

event marking the anniversary of the Chinese parent company's founding, according to the transcript released by the company. "While I have enormous direct losses, the losses for shareholders, investors, institutions and employees make me even more sad and upset." Li's comments add to a wave of criticism of short-selling by Chinese business leaders following the plunge in share prices of other companies that were targeted by in-

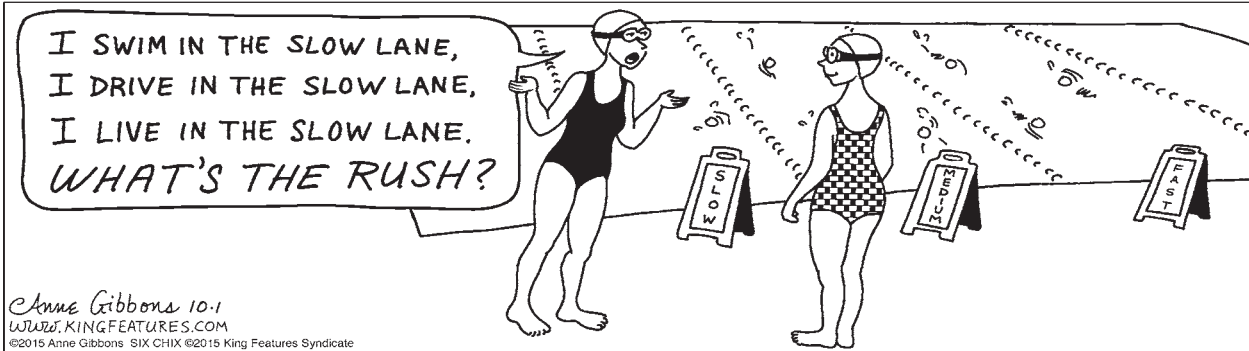
vestors who questioned their finances. Short-selling involves selling borrowed shares in a troubled company in the expectation that an investor can later buy shares at a lower price to return to their owner, making a profit.

Some investors try to push down share prices by publicly challenging companies' financial information. That has prompted demands by Chinese corporate leaders for regulators to limit the practice. □

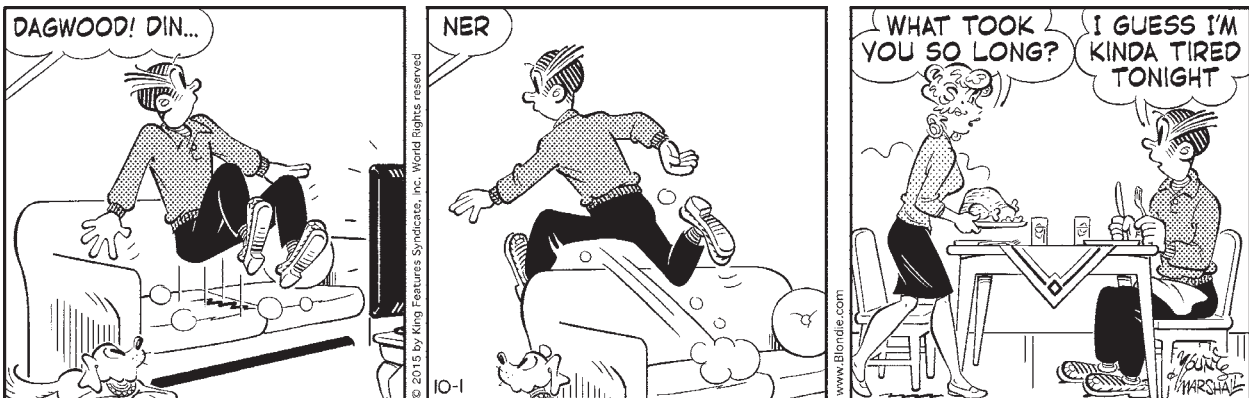
Mutts



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Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

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		8		9		6		
3								5
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Difficulty Level ★★★

10/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	5	9	7	1	8	3	2	4
1	4	7	2	3	9	5	8	6
2	3	8	4	5	6	1	9	7
4	1	6	5	9	2	8	7	3
9	7	2	8	4	3	6	1	5
3	8	5	6	7	1	9	4	2
7	6	3	1	8	4	2	5	9
5	2	1	9	6	7	4	3	8
8	9	4	3	2	5	7	6	1

ACROSS

- Has a ___ on one's shoulder; is quarrelsome
- SeaWorld critters
- Subsides
- Ring of light
- Covered ___; pioneer vehicle
- Small bottle
- "___ well that ends well"
- Ascended
- "___ Wonderful Life"
- Bothers
- Most miserable
- "The Wizard of Oz" film co.
- Tea variety
- Soviet labor camp
- "___ Anybody Seen My Gal?"
- Bite between meals
- Many a golf tournament
- Singer Tormé
- Come back
- As clear ___ bell
- Capital of Venezuela
- Daniel ___ Kim
- Diminish
- Mover's truck
- Gaming cubes
- Swift horse
- Cerise or ruby
- Library shelf items
- Courage
- Actor Linden
- Receive through a will
- Wooded areas
- Part of speech
- Colorful parrot
- Simpleton
- Worth or Knox
- Know-___; smarty-pants
- Craving
- Exclusively
- Inform
- Guide; direct

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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58				59		60				61		
62				63					64			
65				66					67			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/1/15

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

DOWN

- Fellow
- Vigorous
- Troubles
- Mail carrier
- Mass of bees
- All ___; listening
- In the past
- Team defeats
- ___ preview; early showing
- Obvious
- Use the teeth items
- Singing voice
- Bench board
- Hen's product
- Amounts to swallow
- Idle talk
- Objectives
- Near tears
- Rent long-term
- That woman
- Sound portion of a telecast
- ___ up; begin laughing
- Leg joints
- Gent

MIRE	PARKA	POLO
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IDO	TIME	FLOES
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CASINO	SPIRAL	
AGENT	LATEX	POP
LIFT	VEGAN	SPUR
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	ELATED	MOSEYS
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CHINA	BASE	TON
ROLE	MODELS	BIDE
ALLS	CURSE	ACDC
MESS	TOGAS	DESK

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10/1/15

- Galloped
- Totem pole
- Womanizer
- Thirty and forty
- Sad
- Spin
- Saloon
- Restrict
- Wolf cries
- Facts, for short
- Midday
- Throw
- Autumn
- Feeling irked
- Caesar's robe
- Toboggan
- ___ Ripken, Jr.

Classifieds

Time Share Owners !

Do you want to sell or Rent your Time Share in Aruba? Contact us 30 years experience in the industry. More inventory go to www.arubatimetravel.com info@arubatimetravel.com call:(297)6301307
For Rent Marriott Surf Club 2 Bedroom sleep 8 from 5 October to 12 October 2015 Price:\$2200

203661

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24/7

N.J. wants another year to settle oyster research flap



In this June 27, 2012 file photo, Beth Raviit, left, a Rutgers University researcher, holds oysters from an experimental colony; and in this June 27, 2012 photo shows young oysters, right, attached to clam shells that had been growing in an experimental plot at the Earle Naval Weapons Station pier in Middletown, N.J.

WAYNE PARRY
Associated Press

New Jersey wants another year to decide one of its most intractable environmental issues: whether to allow experimental oyster colonies in polluted areas to see if they can help clean the waterways. The research is designed to see if re-establishing oysters in areas like the Raritan Bay can help improve water quality by using their natural filtering techniques. But what's been holding up the research, which the state abruptly halted in 2010, is how to make sure poachers don't sneak in and grab the oysters, selling them and potentially sickening consumers. The bad publicity from an outbreak of oyster-related illness could devastate New Jersey's \$800 million shell-

fish industry.

The state Senate passed a bill last week that would give the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection another year to issue regulations for experimental oyster plots. It also would require the permit holders to certify that the shellfish beds are not visible or easily accessible to the public.

DEP spokesman Bob Con-sidine said the department plans in the next few months to confer with both sides on the issue before issuing new regulations, which could be ready early next year.

"Our goal is to provide clearer standards for the shellfish industry to keep it vibrant while also ensuring health and safety are protected," he said.

At a state Senate hearing

in May, the Garden State Seafood Association said having someone get sick from eating a tainted oyster "would have a real impact on the seafood industry." The oysters included in the research programs are solely for the purpose of improving water quality. Unlike oysters grown commercially in unpolluted parts of the New Jersey coast, they cannot be sold or eaten. Debbie Mans, head of the NY/NJ Baykeeper environmental group, said she has seen a proposed draft of the new regulations, and her group cannot support them.

"It is very, very restrictive, including a requirement that the permittee have the power to arrest people they think are messing around with the reef," she said.

Environmentalists and scientists began planting oyster colonies in polluted areas including Raritan Bay in the early 2000s, hoping to re-establish a species that was once so plentiful that maritime charts listed piles of oysters as threats to navigation.

But the research hit a major roadblock in 2010, when the DEP made the Baykeeper group rip out its oyster colonies from the bay in Keyport. The state said it acted because it couldn't guarantee that poachers would not steal the oysters, potentially introducing tainted seafood into New Jersey's highly regarded shellfish industry. In the interim, groups including Baykeeper and

Rutgers University got permission to set up oyster colonies at the Earle Naval Weapons Station in Middletown, whose pier juts out into the Raritan Bay. Preliminary results showed that the oysters were able to grow and thrive in the contaminated waters of the bay until Superstorm Sandy wrecked them in October 2012. The state allowed that research because the oysters were protected by gun-toting sailors, and boaters are prohibited from getting near the pier. Researchers now want to expand the oyster colonies to other parts of the bay and to other waterways in the state to finally determine if the shellfish can improve water quality. □

Davis Guggenheim transformed by making 'Malala' documentary

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Davis Guggenheim has made movies about world leaders (Barack Obama, Al Gore) and rock stars (U2, Jimmy Page, Jack White), but it's his new film about a girl and her dad that affected him most.

Of course, Malala Yousafzai is no ordinary girl. Guggenheim spent a year and a half with the Nobel Peace Prize winner and her family to make the documentary "He Named Me Malala," opening Friday. He came away deeply moved.

"She's my favorite," the Oscar-winning documentarian ("An Inconvenient Truth") said. "You're not supposed to have favorites, but she's incredible. I've fallen in love with this family."

Even more than Malala's activism, Guggenheim was inspired by the Yousafzai family dynamic, how they value tradition, education and fun.

"I wanted my family to be more like their family," said the 51-year-old filmmaker, who has three children with wife Elisabeth Shue. "I wanted my family to have



In this Dec. 17, 2013 photo released by Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation, director Davis Guggenheim appears in Birmingham, England with Malala Yousafzai, and Ziauddin Yousafzai during the filming of the documentary, "He Named Me Malala," released in U.S. theaters on Friday.

this joyous love for each other, this very expressive sense of love."

"He Named Me Malala" is a personal portrait of the teen activist, who was shot in the head by the Taliban in 2012 for advocating for girls' education in Pakistan. She recovered and continued her work globally, addressing the United Nations in 2013 and winning the Nobel Peace Prize last year.

The film centers on Malala's close relationship with her father, Ziauddin Yousafzai, a teacher and public speaker who knew his daughter's gender didn't limit her potential.

"I have two daughters, and my daughters are mysterious to me," Guggenheim said. "I want to know what he did, what she did in that relationship. I want to unpack that relationship

somehow."

He learned about Malala's family history of public speaking: Her grandfather was a cleric and her dad has long defended education and liberty in the face of religious extremism. The filmmaker learned about the Pashtun heroine she's named for: Malalai of Maiwand, a brave young woman who rallied Afghani troops against the British

Army in 1880 and was killed for being so outspoken.

He followed Malala and her father as they traveled to Kenya, Nigeria and Jordan to support children's rights. Guggenheim also filmed Malala at home, where she does her homework, teases her brothers and blushes as she looks at pictures of Roger Federer online.

But even after hundreds of interviews and countless hours spent with the Yousafzai family, Guggenheim says 18-year-old Malala is still "a complete mystery to me."

"Clearly, she's a combination of all these wonderful things: her father's dream for her, her mother's intense spirituality," he said. "But also (it's) just who she is." A world icon and a regular teenage girl, she's Guggenheim's favorite.

"This movie has been my favorite movie because it really has changed my life. It blows me away," he said. "I want what they have. I want to be the father that Zia is. I want my daughters to feel the love that he gives Malala. I want them to feel that love and respect." □

Associated Press

Clooney, Coen Brothers at 'O Brother' special screening

JOHN CARUCCI

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — George Clooney joined the Coen brothers and stars Tim Blake Nelson and John Turturro at a special 15th-anniversary screening of "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" at the New York Film Festival.

Clooney remembered he had just left a successful television series when the opportunity came up.

"Listen I was an actor coming off of 'ER,' so the idea that the Coen brothers said, 'Do you want to do a movie?' And I was like, 'Yeah, I'll do a movie with the Coen brothers, are you kidding? They do great films.' I just couldn't believe my luck," Clooney told The Associated Press Tuesday night after arriving at the

event.

Clooney admits he felt a geographic familiarity with the characters.

"I grew up in Kentucky and I kind of know these guys a little bit," he said.

Ethan Coen and his brother, Joel, wrote the screenplay, based on "The Odyssey" by Homer, and directed it. Ethan talked about what inspired them to make the movie.

"Three guys chained together, that's a kind of a genre and we just tried to picture three dogs chained together, escaping from the chain gang," he said. "I tracked it through Tim Blake Nelson and George Clooney and I have no idea why that struck us as funny or appealing, but it did," Coen said.

While the film was critically acclaimed and enjoyed moderate success, the soundtrack was a smash hit. Produced by T Bone Burnett, it was made up of artists from the American roots music scene that included Alison Krauss, Ralph Stanley, Gillian Welch and Emmylou Harris. It sold 8 million albums and earned a Grammy Award for album of the year.

"It had a really lasting quality," Clooney said.

Coen loved how the music and the film unexpectedly came together, but also discussed the tricky marriage of the two.

"It works well together, when it works. And we've always been enthusiastic about certain kinds of music, like the music in this



Actor John Turturro, left, actor Tim Blake Nelson, director Ethan Coen, actor George Clooney and director Joel Coen attend a special 15th anniversary screening of, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?," during the New York Film Festival at Alice Tully Hall on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015, in New York.

Associated Press

movie," he said. "It's kind of American roots music and the music of 'Inside Llewyn Davis,'" which Coen said is kind of a descendent of that. One of biggest hits from the film, "I Am a Man of Constant Sorrow," sung by the fictional Soggy Bottom Boys, which included Clooney, Blake-Nelson and

Turturro, does not include Clooney's voice. It was actually bluegrass musician Dan Tyminski.

Clooney told reporters he originally recorded the track, but after he came out of the recording booth, producer Burnett just put his head down and looked away. □

The Who announce rescheduled tour dates, kick-off in Feb.



In this June 28, 2015 file photo, singer Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend of the band The Who perform at the Glastonbury music festival at Worthy Farm, Glastonbury, England.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The Who have announced the rescheduled dates for their axed fall tour, now kicking off in February 2016.

The band said Tuesday that "The Who Hits 50!" tour will start Feb. 27 in Detroit. The band's fall tour was canceled this month as lead singer Roger Daltrey recovers from viral meningitis.

Daltrey said in a statement that "I am now on the

mend and feeling a lot better." Guitarist Pete Townshend added that the band "will be coming back stronger than ever!"

Tickets for the originally scheduled shows will be honored at the new dates. The tour, celebrating The Who's 50th anniversary, also will visit New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and Toronto. It wraps on May 29 in Las Vegas. □

Beyonce, Prince, Jay Z to perform at Tidal concert in NYC



In this Feb. 10, 2015 file photo, Beyonce performs at "Stevie Wonder: Songs in the Key of Life - An All-Star Grammy Salute," in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Streaming service Tidal is putting together an all-star concert starting Beyonce, Prince and Jay Z on Oct. 20.

The music and video streaming platform announced "TIDAL X: 1020 Amplified by HTC," which will take place at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York.

The concert will also include Nicki Minaj, Usher, Lil Wayne, Damian Marley, Thomas Rhett, Indochine and T.I.

Tickets for Tidal subscribers go on sale Wednesday and will be widely available Friday. Tickets range from \$74 through \$244 and all of the ticket sales will support charities through the New World Foundation. □

Fox, SiriusXM launch headline news service



This image released by Fox News Channel shows the new studio for their 24-hour news service, in New York.

Associated Press

DAVID BAUDER
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Fox News is collaborating with SiriusXM to launch a 24-hour news service that will update satellite radio listeners and mobile device users on headlines every 15 minutes.

The service, to launch Oct. 5, is Fox's most high-profile new business venture since the Fox Business Network was started in 2007. Fox is hiring 40 to 50 new journalists and building a new newsroom for the operation, said Jay Wallace, Fox's senior vice president of news.

Fox News Headlines 24/7 will introduce SiriusXM subscribers to a concept familiar to radio listeners in many of the nation's biggest cities — top stories

continuously updated and repeated in 15-minute increments.

The station will also be streamed online and available to people through an app that can be paid for separately from SiriusXM's main service.

"We're really trying to make this a news service for the 21st century and not just replicate old radio," said Wallace, who would not say how much Fox is investing in the service.

Fox already has a radio division that provides news to stations across the country, but given the state of the business it's not a growth industry.

SiriusXM already collaborates with Fox on three other channels, two that simulcast Fox News and FBN television broadcasts and

one that focuses on Fox's talk-show hosts. The satellite news channel also has three channels devoted to CNN programming.

The main news channels can often latch onto one story for a long period of time; the headline service won't break its format even for big stories.

"People really crave information and they're used to getting it when they want it," said Dave Gorab, SiriusXM vice president who oversees information programming.

SiriusXM considered proposals from other news organizations to run the new service but was attracted to the "active and vibrant" way Fox presents the news, Gorab said. Fox News Channel personalities Bill Hemmer and Shepard Smith will be on the air the first few weeks to attract listeners.

As a national service, Fox News Headlines won't rely on the traffic and weather reports that are a staple of the local radio versions. There will be a strong component of entertainment news, and the Internet will be followed closely to keep listeners informed on trending topics, Wallace said.

The service will also be a training ground for new Fox talent and provide reporting on some stories that can make their way to the TV network, he said. □

Will Smith's 'Concussion' to premiere at AFI Fest



This image released by Sony Pictures shows the poster art for the film, "Concussion," to be released in U.S. theaters on Christmas Day.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The Will Smith NFL drama "Concussion" will premiere as the centerpiece to the AFI Fest. The Los Angeles film festival announced Wednesday that the Peter Landesman-directed film will debut at AFI on November 10. Smith stars in the film, which Sony Pictures will release in December, as Dr. Bennet Omalu, the forensic neuropathologist who discovered brain effects from head

trauma in football.

"Concussion" has already proven a hot-button movie. The New York Times earlier reported that the film was altered to placate the NFL, a charge Landesman and Sony have denied.

Tom Rothman, chairman of the Sony Pictures Entertainment Motion Picture Group, said he wanted to unveil "Concussion" early "so that the discussion can be more informed." □

'Dancing with the Stars' requires grit, pain tolerance

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

"Dancing with the Stars" brings to mind words and phrases including "waltz," "paso doble" and "that's a star?"

Then there's this one: "Ouch."

There have been so many injuries and health woes over so many seasons of ABC's dance contest that it could be renamed "Triage with the Stars." Even Olympians have been felled by the seriously grueling demands of competitive ballroom dancing.

This season's first casualty was Kim Zolciak Biermann of "Real Housewives of Atlanta" fame, whose crisis came off the dance floor. She was flying home from Los Angeles after working on the show last week when she suffered a so-called mini-stroke that put her in the hospital. She helpfully posted a sickbed snapshot.

Zolciak Biermann has reported a full recovery but was dropped under series' rules because she missed a performance. She's campaigning to get back on the series airing 8 p.m. EDT Monday, proof of its addic-



In this Sept. 22, 2015 photo released by ABC, Tony Dovolani, left, and Kim Zolciak Biermann perform on the celebrity dance competition series, "Dancing with the Stars," in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

tive nature.

There's more than bragging rights at stake. "Dancing with the Stars" has helped contestants rev up their careers and even reshape their images, as happened when Jerry Springer, the king of rowdy TV talk shows, waltzed his way to a more lovable public persona.

But the earliest years of the show seemed to carry less risk, with scant physical

fallout on the books. Is the quest for the mirror ball trophy becoming more competitive? Or are American celebrities, along with the rest of America, becoming less fit? Nah, impossible, with zero still the preferred dress size in Hollywood.

Here's a tally of the more seriously afflicted since the show's 2005 debut, including one professional dancer. As a testament to their

dedication, only a handful of the 200-plus contestants to date have withdrawn because of health problems.

— Marie Osmond faints in season five, citing windedness from air pollution.

— Cristian de la Fuente suffers a bicep tendon rupture in season six, refuses surgery and dances on.

— Two-time Olympic beach volleyball gold medalist

Misty May-Treanor leaves the show in season seven after tearing her Achilles tendon in rehearsal.

— Former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay drops out of season nine because of foot problems.

— Jewel (tibia fractures in both legs) and Nancy O'Dell (a torn meniscus) fail to make it out of rehearsals in season eight.

— Pro dancer Kym Johnson hurts her neck during season 12 rehearsal but ends up a winner with partner Hines Ward.

— Melissa Gilbert gets a mild concussion and whiplash in season 14 after hitting her head on the dance floor.

— Lisa Vanderpump of "Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" faints during rehearsal in season 16, blaming fatigue, possible flu.

— Olympic figure skating gold medalist Dorothy Hamill is another season 16 casualty, withdrawing from the show because of pre-existing health conditions.

— Bill Nye, aka The Science Guy, suffers a leg injury in season 17, then gamely dances wearing a brace.

— Billy Dee Williams drops out of season 18 because of chronic back pain. □

Mobile ticket app TodayTix broadens its American reach

MARK KENNEDY

AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) —

TodayTix, the mobile app for theater tickets, has already gotten applause in New York and London. Now it plans to open in some key U.S. cities, as part of what its founders say is a "pretty aggressive roadmap over the next couple of years."

Founders Merritt Baer and Brian Fenty on Tuesday rolled out the app to San Francisco and Los Angeles, and hope to move into Washington, D.C., and Chicago by the end of the year.

"We're really excited to be rolling out to these four cities because they represent the second and third largest theatrical cities in Amer-

ica alongside two major theatrical landmark cities," Baer said.

The free app for Apple and Android phones lets users see all the various shows being offered up to one week in advance, select a seat, pay the best price available at the time and then receive proof of the ticket purchase — all in less than a minute.

TodayTix searches for the best prices — whether it's a steep discount or full price for a hit show — and passes them along, with a \$5 convenience fee. It has some 650,000 users; the typical user is 32 years old, 12 years younger than the average Broadway theatergoer.

Ticket buyers can either pick up their tickets at the

box offices that have partnered with TodayTix or be greeted outside the theater by a TodayTix representative wearing in a red T-shirt or sweatshirt. The so-called concierge service costs another \$5.

The app launched in 2013 and has tickets available for 40 Broadway and off-Broadway shows in New York City and, three months after launching in London, has more than 40 shows in the West End. The company said it accounts for 10 percent of ticket sales on Broadway and also gives users access to ticket lotteries, great deals during previews and even inaugurated the first barcode-read mobile tickets in London.

"We have very ambitious



This undated image provided by TodayTix shows company co-founders Merritt Baer, left, and Brian Fenty.

Associated Press

growth plans," Fenty said. "We really do think the sky is the limit in terms of where we can take this technology — across the country and globally."

The app has found a fol-

lowing since independent surveys have found that half of Broadway tickets are bought within a week of the performance and some 47 percent of people buy their tickets online. □



Hip Bookstores Help Tell Stories Along Route 66

Marco P. Cremasco, 28, of Sao Paulo, Brazil, browses through Downtown Books located on the iconic Route 66 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in this September, 2015 photo. Route 66 is home to a number of bookstores, often attracting regulars from around the corner and visitors from around the world.

(AP Photo/Russell Contreras)

RUSSELL CONTRERAS
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)

— Travelers along historic Route 66 from Chicago to Los Angeles have no problem finding their fix of fake American Indian jewelry and vintage Elvis posters. But along this path motorists also will discover something once declared dead: the used bookstore.

There's the Chicago bookstore with a cat and a mechanical elevator, and the Albuquerque shop where lawyers and the homeless search together for Jack Kerouac's novels. There's also the iconic California store that once delivered books to Japanese-Americans interned at nearby camps.

All are located on Route 66, or a block away, often attracting regulars from around the corner and visitors from around the world seeking Greek classics or a collection of Ernest Hemingway short stories. Owners say their stores are still thriving in the era of e-readers, tablets and online libraries.

Some, like Vroman's Bookstore in Pasadena, California, have been around for more than 100 years.

Others, like the 5th Street Books in Kingman, Arizona, just opened recently.

"For whatever reason, there are still some people who want an old-fashioned book in their hands," Laura Eisner, owner of The Book Case in Albuquerque, a shop that opened when John F. Kennedy was running for president. "And they get that urge when they are just passing through."

Route 66, also called the Mother Road, began in 1926 after the Bureau of Public Roads launched the nation's first federal highway system, bringing together existing local and state roads from Chicago through St. Louis to Los Angeles. Small towns opened shops, motels and gas stations to pump revenue into local economies just as the nation's car culture took off. Its importance even sparked a "Route 66" song performed by Nat King Cole, and later by the 1980s

English electronic band Depeche Mode. Yet, the route changed a number of times through the years, and eventually became less of a destination thanks to new interstate highways. In 2008, the World Monuments Fund listed Route 66 on the "Watch List of 100 Most Endangered Sites."

Despite its endangered status, Route 66 remains an attraction for tourists who seek out its neon-lit diners and vintage motels — like the now-defunct Albuquerque motel where Bill Gates lived while launching Microsoft. Along the way, they can hunt through used bookstores for dusty copies of everything from John Steinbeck's "Tortilla Flat" to Ana Castillo's "Peel My Love Like an Onion."

"I specialize in nonfiction," said Mert Glancy, 61, who operates 5th Street Books in Kingman, Arizona. Her store is a block away from the storied road and is located in a building that once housed a newspaper. "There's another bookstore a block away that concentrates on con-

temporary fiction." No one knows just how many used bookstore are located along Route 66. The online bookstore, AbeBooks.com, recently listed 66 used bookstores near Route 66 and still faced angry comments for leaving off others. Some used bookstore owners don't even know realize they're on the famous route.

Keith Peterson, 64, owner of Selected Works Used Books and Sheet Music, which sits a block from the beginning of Route 66 in Chicago, admitted he didn't know Route 66 started at Chicago's Grant Park. His second-floor store is across the street.

"We get a lot of out-of-town tourists, especially during the blues festival," said Peterson. "They usually want Hemingway or (Kurt) Vonnegut and we are always out. Those are hard to keep on the shelves."

Other owners know exactly where they are because Route 66 memorabilia surrounds them. That's the case for Scott J. Free, 46, a former engineer who

opened Downtown Books in Albuquerque 15 years ago. His store is a block south of the road and near Route 66 locations for scenes from AMC's "Breaking Bad." Route 66 travelers are a big customer base, he said.

During a recent afternoon, Marco P. Cremasco of Sao Paulo, Brazil, stumbled upon the store during a walk along Route 66 after an Amtrak train ride. The 28-year-old had been traveling through the United States for three months.

"I had a big Route 66 sign in my room as a kid," he said while thumbing through books in the fiction section. "I'm glad I found this place." He sat down to read before continuing his trip to Santa Fe, then Los Angeles. But what keeps attracting customers? It's the experience of trying to find a lost treasure or out-of-print book, said Eisner, owner of The Book Case.

"And I think people love the smell of old books," Eisner said. "If I could bottle it, I'd sell it, too. On Route 66." □